Survey Says:

Glenview Park District is Tops!

Written by Stacey McCarthy

The scope of Glenview has a total of 340 park districts. As well as being huge tourist attractions, these parks districts are especially special that many of them have facilities that focus on sports, culture and events – facilities that attract people who want to live in the area.

One of these districts – perhaps the largest and most active in the state – is the Glenview Park District (GPD), which serves a community of roughly 30,000. The GPD is near the city of Chicago and includes the Village of Glenview, Golf, Niles, Northbrook, Hawthorne and Skokie as well as unincorporated areas beyond the village limits.

This district offers activities for all seasons and pretty much all interests. Residents almost take it for granted until they stop and take a moment to think about just how specific.

“We are an amazing park district,” said Michelle Flore, Public Relations Specialist with the Glenview Park District. “Whether people are interested in learning about the nature or discovering the park, taking up a sport or just enjoying some time outdoors, really the Glenview Park District is about all of that.”

There are many unique features to highlight in the 325 square miles that the GPD covers.

“We have an amazing recreation center – Park Center – which is an award-winning and state-of-the-art community and fitness center,” said Flore. “The lobby also has a fireplace, and it’s so relaxing that you can go in, grab a coffee at the coffee shop and catch up some reading in front of the fireplace. There’s also a pool and fitness rooms, it’s one of the most popular facilities used. In fact, the pool is used by Sam Ida, a member of the Olympic 2007 to 2008 national junior team.”

Along with the newer facilities that exist, those seeking an active lifestyle there are also areas that appeal to families of all ages. “Wadsworth Historic Farm is the only one in the area outside the major metropolis area of Chicago, that offers a working farm, so people who live in the city can come and see what it’s like to milk cows, see other farm animals, and learn about farm life,” said Flore.

“We have a place called The Grove which is a historic treasure where people can walk around and go in nature on walking paths with what you imagine what it would be like if you had 100 years of trees – large tressy areas, and black beautiful trees,” she continued. “We also have things that other park districts have like golf courses, pools, tennis courts, and of course, our ice center, which not every district has.”

The community takes much pride in all that it has to offer, and everyone officials feel confident that they are doing the right thing for the people they serve based on a survey conducted in 2017 specifically examined what people wanted, what they might be missing, and what they thought of how they were being managed. This statistically valid eight-page survey of a random selection, conducted by Alden Research & Insights, came back with a 95 percent confidence level with a margin of error of ±4.6 percent. “The state average is about seventy-five percent, so our people here are really happy about what we are doing,” said Flore.