

Lan-Oak Park District

PARK NOTES

Fall 2021

Park Improvements Continue

To Be A Priority... *New Fun Coming Soon*

In its continuing effort to provide destination parks for the community the park district has planned it's next destination activity. Early spring 2022 (weather-permitting, of course) Lan-Oak Park will receive a new sand volleyball facility. Three new sand volleyball courts will replace the deteriorating tennis courts currently in the park. The sand volleyball courts will be lit and will offer a popular and growing sport to the Lan-Oak Park District park inventory. In 2016 the park district initiated an effort to repair and update all of its parks.

In keeping with that goal, the destination park concept was born. While all parks should offer basic play amenities for the surrounding neighborhood, the park district set out to offer a unique recreation opportunity in various parks throughout the community. These recreational activities are not found in any other park and each destination activity offers a different sport or different fun. Destination park activities already constructed in neighborhood parks include bocce, tennis, fishing and winter sledding, fitness and reading, an inclusive playground, outdoor musical instruments, the beloved Paws 'n Play Dog Park at Bock Park, and a smart phone enabled playground.

Lan-Oak Park, located at 178th Street and Arcadia, has long been considered Lansing's community park. Lan-Oak Park already boasts the largest, highest, most exciting playground in Lansing, as well as a horseshoes/bags facility. Sand volleyball will complete this beautiful park and offer one more fun destination for Lansing!



Our canine friends will also welcome some new fun this fall. The Paws 'n Play Dog Park will add super fun playhouses, one for small dogs and one for big dogs. Both playhouses are constructed of 100% recycled plastic and will allow dogs to exercise their muscles and their curiosity.

Paws 'n Play Dog Park opened at Chicago Ave and 175th Street in fall of 2018. Since opening, the dog park has added additional limestone at the en-

tries, shade trees, new landscaping, and an irrigation system for keeping the park clean and safe for canine family members. Dog Park memberships are available at Lan-Oak Park District, 2550 178th Street in Lansing. Membership forms are conveniently offered online at

www.lanoakparkdistrict.org. Paws 'n Play follows all Cook County Health Department requirements in order to keep the park safe for all. Paws 'n Play is open year-round. Who wants to play?!



Playskool Celebrates Its 20th Year of Educating Lansing's Young

In 2001 the Lan-Oak Park District wanted to offer a high-quality educational preschool for the community. The perfect classroom area was chosen at the Lan-Oak Park District Eisenhower Fitness and Community Center, renovation began, furniture and supplies arrived, and a staff was hired and trained. In September 2001 Playskool opened to more than 100 students. Twenty years later, Playskool is still going strong educating preschoolers and boasting decades of happy families and students. The 2021-2022 school year started on September 7 and brought with it the challenge of keeping safe during COVID. Class sizes have been reduced, sneeze guards are in place on all tables, classroom sanitizing occurs every day,



individual student supply boxes are present, individual student lockers, snacks are individually wrapped, all student handwashing every 45 minutes has been initiated, and touch-free soap and paper towel dispensers have been added. Heating and air conditioning units are equipped with economizers allowing for fresh air circulation and HEPA air purifiers have been installed in both Playskool classrooms.

Playskool supplies cloth face masks for all students and checks parent and child temperatures every day. These are big changes that have proven worthwhile with more than 65 students enrolling and able to benefit from in-person learning for this school year.

What has not changed is Playskool's belief that 3-5 year olds can learn so much more than the basics. The theme curriculum offered every day in Playskool includes the alphabet with phonetic sounds, numbers 1-20, the calendar, daily weather, geography with map reading, the continents, science experiments, rhyming, opposites, sequencing, patterns, art projects, poetry, the history of famous people, the importance of diversity, health, fitness, story stretcher units to develop a love of reading, gym days, and playground fun for exercising those gross motor skills.

So here we are twenty years later and as grateful and proud as we were in 2001.

Thank you to all of our Playskool families over the years and to all those yet to come.



GET BACK TO FITNESS!! The JANUARY BUY ONE GET ONE FREE Fitness Membership Special is back!!

The best deal in the area! Check it out - buy an annual fitness membership that already allows a twosome option and add a second person absolutely FREE.

The annual twosome option is offered for Lansing residents, non-residents, and seniors. Make it a family affair! Adults may add children age 10 to 17 to their membership with the same deal - pay for one child, add the second child for FREE.

Senior discounts are available. Membership discounts apply to specified fitness classes. Questions? 708-474-8552

Just For Ages 9-12

HAPPY HALLOWEEN Costume Party

FRIDAY OCTOBER 29
6:30-8:30pm

Attendance is limited so reserve your spot!!
\$5 Party Fee Program#: 354068 Section#: 01

FOOD, DJ, BEST COSTUMES WIN PRIZES!

LAN OAK PARK DISTRICT 2550 178th Street
Register at: www.lanoakparkdistrict.org 708-474-8552

CHECK OUT NEW HALLOWEEN FUN

Ghostly Games has been a Lansing tradition for decades. Ages 3-8 will receive candy or a prize every time they play. Arrive a little early - this event welcomes hundreds each year. Parents will relax and visit.

A traditional costume party is just right for ages 9-12.

Create your costume, grab your friends, and party!

Food, DJ, games, and lots of fun for just \$5.

Pre-register now! Calling Teens - Let's see what you've got. Crawl over in your best Zombie look to eat Zombie food, hunt in the Zombie Nerf war, and win costume awards. Lurch, slither, and limp to register now!

GHOSTLY GAMES



Don't miss this Lansing tradition! Kids will love seeing friends, playing games, and bringing home their loot. Candy or a prize every time you play a game! Parents - prepare for a super fun night.

Friday
22ND
OCTOBER

6:30-8:30 pm

**COSTUMED
CHARACTERS,
CARNIVAL GAMES,
BOUNCE HOUSE, ART
STATION - FOR AGES
3-8 YEARS**

Questions? 708-474-8552 Fee: \$5 (kids only)

ZOMBIE Walk & Party

JUST FOR TEENS 13-17

**SAT
30
OCT
7PM-
9PM**

LAN OAK PARK DISTRICT
2550 178TH STREET

WWW.LANOAKPARKDISTRICT.ORG QUESTIONS? 708-474-8552
PROGRAM#: 354216 (01) PARTY FEE \$5

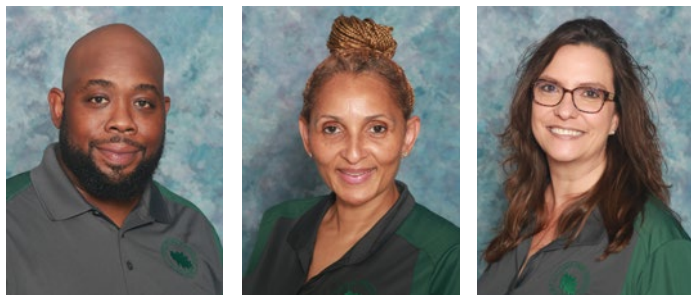
OCTOBER IS
ZOMBIE
AWARENESS
MONTH, SO BE
AWARE. CREATE
YOUR ZOMBIE
LOOK, JOIN THE
PARTY, LURCH,
CRAWL, LIMP
AND SLITHER -
COMPETE FOR
PRIZES, EAT,
AND WALK.
ATTENDANCE IS
LIMITED, SO
PRE-REGISTER.

NEWS & EVENTS

Catch up on some park district news tidbits...

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS!!

Last spring Lan-Oak Park District Board of Commissioners experienced a change by welcoming three new board members. The board is a five-member elected board that sets policy for the Lan-Oak Park District. President Bob Tropp and Vice President John Kelly selected Christopher Gales, Lolly Lewis, and Gina Aguilar for the board vacancies. All three were sworn into their board seats in May and June and are already bringing fresh new ideas and energy to the park district



ONLY THE BEST!!

In recent years the park district has been committed to bringing more high-quality instruction to its recreation programs with professional contractors. This year two new contractors have been added to our list - United Gymnastics Academy and Just For Kicks Martial Arts Academy. Both of these companies bring the type of professional instruction that our patrons deserve and expect. Check out their programs in our seasonal program brochure and join in the fun!



The Lan-Oak Park District offers many family special events each year - free to those attending.

These special events are an “all hands on deck” opportunity that involves many generous volunteers. Volunteering for park district special events is fun, makes new friends, qualifies for community service credit, and brings a sense of community.

Please email Jessica Hernandez at jhernandez@lanoakparkdistrict.org to inquire about volunteering.

LAN-OAK PARK DISTRICT
2550 178th Street
Lansing, Illinois 60438
708-474-8552

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