

Playground Dept. Promotes Year-Around Activities

The Highland Park Playground and Recreation Department is a municipal tax-supported agency with a Board of five members appointed by the mayor and the City Council.

It is a year-round organization, working as an agency promoting and sponsoring community activities for young and old in Highland Park.

The Recreation Department maintains the Community Center and supervises year-round activities that are carried on there such as dancing, art, baton-twirling classes and boxing, fencing and weight-lifting groups. The Center also provides facilities and meeting places for civic groups including the Community Chest, the Co-ordinating Council, the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, the Red Cross, and music groups. The Community Center is equipped with a dark-room, craft shop, game room, a small gym, a community hall and a lounge, all of which are available for use by Highland Parkers.

The Recreation Department supervises seven summer playgrounds in Highland Park and sponsors leagues in softball, basketball, touch football, hockey and other seasonal major sports.

Special Activities

Wednesday Day Camp

A Highland Park Day Camp, open to all boys and girls, will be held at Sunset Park each Wednesday, starting June 22nd and ending August 3rd, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

There is no fee in connection with this camp.

Children bring their lunches and money for milk, and meet at Sunset Park each Wednesday morning during the summer program.

Indian Day Camp

A special Day Camp with limited enrollment conducted for a six weeks period, June 20th through July 29th, for boys and girls from seven to eleven years of age. A fee is charged for transportation, lunches and swimming.

Sports Club

Boys from eleven to sixteen years of age will meet for bicycle trips, hikes, fishing and camping each Wednesday afternoon from June 22nd through August 3rd. The group meets at the Community Center at 4:00 p.m.

Arts and Crafts

A program of special craft instruction will be conducted Mondays through Fridays at Sunset Park from June 20th through August 5th.

The program includes finger painting, sketching, spatter work painting and water colors.

Craft work will be undertaken in felt, leather, yarn, wood, raffia and craftstrip for making simple projects such as key chains, belts, purses, head bands, bracelets and booklets. Instruction will be given in shell jewelry and Indian bead work.

For more advanced projects there will be instruction in the weaving of rugs, table mats, belts and purses as well as in pottery making.

Puppets will be made by boys and girls interested in dramatics. The nature craftsman will be able to get assistance in building a bird house, a kite or a boat.

Story Telling

Through the cooperation of the Highland Park Public Library, Miss Viola K. Fitch of the Library staff, will visit the Junior Playgrounds and the Day Camp during the summer program period to tell stories to the children.

Nature Trips

Each Wednesday morning from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Highland Park adults and senior counselors from the playgrounds and Day Camp will take a nature trip in Turnbull woods (County Line and Green Bay Road) with a senior naturalist from the Cook County Forest Preserve department.

For more information regarding these trips, call the Recreation office (H.P. 2442).

The first trip will be June 22nd.

Special Trips

The Recreation Department will conduct supervised trips for all Highland Park girls and boys during the summer program period (June 20th through August 5th).

The trips will be made to various places including the Brookfield Zoo, the Railroad Fair, the Museum of Science and Industry, a Cub's baseball game, farms and other points of interest.

The dates of these trips will be announced at the playgrounds and will be published in the local papers.

Highland Park's New Playground and Recreation Building



The new Recreation Building will provide facilities to serve many of the needed recreational activities of Highland Park's youngsters and oldsters.

The building will stand on the crest of Green Bay Ridge north of the water tower, set well back from Green Bay Road in a broad expanse of a formerly unused section of Sunset Park. Built over the downslope of the ridge, the building is one story on the east front and full two stories in height on the west rear.

The approach to the building will be from Green Bay Road along a broad two-way drive with a turning circle at the building entrance. A stone surfaced parking area is to be provided south of the building. In order to build this access road the Recreation Board has purchased the third lot north of the Fire Station from which the present house and garage will be removed.

The outstanding feature of the building is the large gymnasium, with a gym floor 96 ft by 72 ft. in clear play area. Game lines are to be painted on the maple gym floor to provide all types of court games. For basketball, there are two cross courts, and a full size court with six backstops. Volley ball, four badminton courts, and softball are also provided for.

Approximately 400 spectator seats are planned for in folding bleachers at the play floor level and a permanent concrete spectator gallery opening from the main lobby at the upper entrance level.

Adequate locker facilities, toilets, showers and drying rooms adjacent to the gym to serve both indoor and outdoor athletic activities.

A Physical Director's office is centrally located for full view, not only of the gym activities, but also a large ground floor playroom where ping pong and other young people's games will be played.

Hobby Shops—provisions are for a crafts and woodworking room, for shops activities, and a dark-room is planned for camera enthusiasts.

All of the athletic activities will be located on the ground floor level opening onto the west lower slope of the hill where a 60 ft. x 100 ft. black top wet weather play court provides for outdoor games.

The main entrance of the building is on the upper level. Broad entrance steps and a sheltered platform lead into a spacious lobby where the director's control desk and office supervise all activities.

A community room with a small platform stage provides for general meetings, dances, dramatic presentations and parties. Behind the stage is a kitchen to provide for food service to the community room. A dumbwaiter connecting with a serving room below the kitchen allows service to the lower gymnasium floor level from the same kitchen.

A convenient coke bar is provided for dispensing soft drinks that will undoubtedly become the meeting place for the teen age groups the Community Center expects to attract.

A pleasant Lounge is provided for casual reading and meetings.

A future wing planned to the north provides two additional 18 x 25 ft. meeting rooms, one on the ground floor gym level and adjoining the first floor lounge above.

Recreation Board Announces Staff For This Summer

The Highland Park Playgrounds will be well cared for this summer with a staff of upwards of 35 persons.

Many instructors are doubling by working in two or more divisions of the playgrounds. According to Howard Copp, Superintendent of Recreation, this gives Highland Park a chance to have well qualified persons in charge of each division with college and high school counselors working under them.

Junior Playgrounds

For the seven Junior Playgrounds operated by the Recreation Department, Bernice Kortendick, a graduate in Recreation from Wisconsin Teacher's College, will be in charge at Sunset Park. Peggy Stair, a Junior at Smith College, will be at Lincoln Playground; Agnita Mitchell, a teacher at West Ridge School will be at Ravinia Playground; Helen Culver, a graduate of National College of Education, will be at West Ridge and Old Elm Playground; Nancy Knight, a sophomore at Smith College will be at Braeside Playground; and Barbara Clarke, a Junior at Lake Forest College, will be in charge at Elm Place School Playground. Virginia Freberg, a sophomore at Lake Forest College, will assist at West Ridge Playground. Other assistants will be Mrs. J. Duffy at Lincoln Playground; Martha Weaver of the Highland Park High School at Braeside; Ted Pincus from the High School at Elm Place; Emily Ann Perreault from the High School at Lincoln; Bill Temple from the High School at Ravinia Playground; and Jerry Nugent from St. George's High School will assist at Sunset Park.

Senior Playgrounds

Al Danakas, Physical Education director at Elm Place School, will be in charge of evening softball at Sunset Park. He will be assisted by Joe Sladky, a graduate of Physical Education of Wisconsin State Teachers College and Lois Hardt, a senior at LaCrosse. Eugene Roeder, a senior in the physical education department at LaCrosse State Teachers College, will be in charge of evening softball at Lincoln and Braeside Playgrounds.

Indian Day Camp

Al Danakas and Lois Hardt will be co-directors of this group. In the boys division Joe Sladky and Eugene Roeder of LaCrosse, Bob Plummer of Lake Forest College, Bob Moncreiff, a sophomore at Yale, and Jim Goldman of Lake Forest College, will act as group leaders. In the girls division Anne Temple of Monticello College and Holly Stair will be Senior counselors. Mary Selfridge, Cynthia Sinclair, Sue Strauss, Carol Tringmar, Rita Witty and Catherine Harder will act as Junior Counselors.

Special Activities

Miss Ella Rasmussen will supervise counselor and camper instruction for crafts. She will be assisted by Ellen Pierce, a Junior at Wellesley College, and Pat Harris, a Sophomore at the University of Colorado.

Mrs. Daniel M. Sinclair will supervise outdoor painting groups and Mrs. Nona Fennell will conduct a class in Obedience Dog Training.

A senior naturalist from the Cook County Forest Preserve staff will conduct tours each Wednesday for Highland Parkers.

Junior Playgrounds

Playground locations and instructors:

Braeside School Playground—2232 Pierce Road. Instructor—Nancy Knight. Assistant—Martha Weaver.

Elm Place School Playground—Sheridan Road and Elm Place. Instructor—Barbara Clarke. Assistant—Ted Pincus.

Lincoln School Park Playground—Green Bay Road and Lincoln Avenue. Instructor—Peggy Stair. Assistant—Emily Ann Perreault.

Old Elm Park Playground—Krenn Avenue and Sumac Road. Open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings only. Instructor—Helen Culver. Assistant—Jacqueline Fredricks.

Ravinia School Playground—Roger Williams and Kincaid Street. Instructor—Mrs. A. Mitchell. Assistant—Bill Temple.

Sunset Playground—45 acres with entrances on Green Bay Road and Central Avenue. Instructor—Bernice Kortendick. Assistant—Jerry Nugent.

West Ridge Playground—West Ridge School, 930 So. Ridge Road. Open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings only. Instructor—Helen Culver. Assistant—Virginia Freberg.

Recreation Staff

Superintendent of Recreation—

Howard F. Copp

Secretary—Mildred Walther

1949 Summer Recreation Staff

Playground Instructors

Junior Playgrounds—Barbara Clarke, Peggy Stair, Agnita Mitchell, Bernice Kortendick, Helen Culver, Nancy Knight, Jacqueline Fridrich, Virginia Freberg.

Senior Playgrounds—Bernice Kortendick, Lois Hardt, Joe Sladky, Al Danakas, Eugene Roeder.

Junior Counselors—Martha Weaver, Ted Pincus, Emily Ann Perreault, Bill Temple, Jerry Nugent.

Indian Day Camp

Counselors—Al Danakas, Lois Hardt, Joe Sladky, Anne Temple, Eugene Roeder, Bob Plummer, Holly Stair, Bob Moncreiff, Jim Goldman.

Assistants—Mary Selfridge, Cynthia Sinclair, Sue Strauss, Rita Witte, Carol Tringmar, Catherine Harder.

Dietician—Mrs. Hirst.

Special Activities

Art—D. M. Sinclair

Crafts—Miss Ella Rasmussen

Nature Trips—Naturalist from Cook County Forest Preserve Department.

Obedience Dog Training—Mrs. Nona Fennell

Special Trips—Howard Copp

Sports Club—Boys—Eugene Roeder; Girls—Lois Hardt

Softball—Al Danakas, Joe Sladky

Tennis—Bill Temple

Teen Age Dances—William Behrens

Story Telling Hours—Viola K. Fritch

Teen Age Dances

The Teen Age Club dances will be held each Wednesday evening at the Community Center or Sunset Park Dance pavilion from 8:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., from June 22nd to August 3rd.

Softball

The Recreation Department will conduct a 16-inch softball league at Sunset Park each Thursday evening during the summer. Eight teams will participate in this league. Play began Thursday, May 5th. Three twilight games and one game under the lights will be played each week.

The 12-inch softball league, open to Highland Parkers, will be operated each Tuesday evening at Sunset Park.

The Class B 12-inch softball league will be open to boys through the sophomore year at High School. This League is open to sponsored teams and will play each Monday evening at Sunset Park.

The girls 12-inch softball league will be held Wednesday evenings at Sunset Park.

The Triple "A" 12-inch softball Highland Park team, sponsored by the V.F.W., will play each Friday evening under the lights at Sunset Park.

Softball games will be played at Ravinia playground on Monday and Wednesday evenings; at Lincoln playground on Monday and Thursday evenings; and on Braeside playground on Tuesday evenings.

Office: The Community Center
549 Central Avenue
Phone: Highland Park 2442



ART OLSON

Playground and Recreation Board

President—Art Olson
Vice President—W. J. Hodge
Secretary—Bruce Krasberg
Treasurer—E. T. Skidmore
Activities Chairman—H.T. Schaffner

Senior Playgrounds

In addition to the seven Junior Playgrounds, the Recreation Department will have qualified instructors to supervise recreational activities for older boys and girls at the following playfields on the days and hours specified.

Sunset Park Playfield
Lincoln School Park Playfield
Ravinia School Playfield
Braeside School Playfield

A Day Camp Group At Sunset Park

