

GLENVIEW

‘We are all so very excited that we are back’ The Grove Folk Fest returns after three years

By Karie Angell Luc
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The sound system was not working but that did not stop guitarist Andrew Calhoun of Glen Ellyn from singing for a growing audience. Image from The Grove Folk Fest on Oct. 2, 2022 at The Grove National Historic Landmark in Glenview. (Karie Angell Luc / Pioneer Press)



More than 1,500 attendees were expected to attend the return of The Grove Folk Fest on Oct. 2 at The Grove National Historic Landmark in Glenview.

The Glenview Park District six hour fundraiser took place on a sunny Sunday afternoon at 62 degrees.



An atmosphere of good luck on this birdhouse at the vendor market. Image from The Grove Folk Fest on Oct. 2, 2022 at The Grove National Historic Landmark in Glenview. (Karie Angell Luc / Pioneer Press)

“We love having the community here and coming out and enjoying all areas of The Grove,” DeAngeles also said.

“We have over 150 acres of hiking trails, we have several historic buildings, we have the 1856 Kennicott House, the 1929 Redfield Estate, it is just a great place to appreciate nature but to also appreciate local history.”



The tractor hayride pulls away. Danielle Perlin-Good of Northbrook and Jamie Bitton of Glenview are among event attendees going for the 15 to 20 minute tour of the grounds. Image from The Grove Folk Fest on Oct. 2, 2022 at The Grove National Historic Landmark in Glenview. (Karie Angell Luc / Pioneer Press)

Ashley DeAngeles, The Grove’s customer service and operations supervisor, recalled the status of The Grove Folk Fest since 2018.

“In 2019, we were flooded, so we couldn’t hold the event in 2019, and then of course, the (COVID-19) pandemic, so we are all so very excited that we are back and being able to hold it as usual.

“It’s really a great community event.

The Grove Folk Fest, a paid admission event, provided funds to benefit the Grove Heritage Association (GHA). See <https://groveheritageassociation.org>.

“They (GHA) do so much for The Grove, they help us buy land, they help us pay for exhibits, conservation, natural area restoration, they fund a lot of our special projects,” DeAngeles said.

People could visit vendor tables and booths on the Redfield Estate Lawn. Music on a raised stage provided a folksy feel. Picnic tables were set up where people could dine as a community. Pumpkin décor added autumn orange.

Food for purchase included The Grove’s renowned pulled pork and bean stew, prepared in large cauldrons over an open outdoor fire. An estimated 100 gallons of stew were made.



Smoke billows from one of the three cauldrons in the outdoor kitchen area. Image from The Grove Folk Fest on Oct. 2, 2022 at The Grove National Historic Landmark in Glenview. (Karie Angell Luc / Pioneer Press)

There were rug hooking demonstrations in the Kennicott House Beck Room. The program Barn featured Glenview square dancers. Hayrides behind the Redfield Pavilion were popular, lasting 15 to 20 minutes. There were no chairs but plenty of hay to sit in on the wagon.

“It’s actually my first time sitting on hay, with no chair,” said a smiling Silvia Barahona of Glenview who rode the tractor hayride with husband Piotr Tralewski.

Ross Good and Danielle Perlin-Good of Northbrook, and parents Jamie and Liad Bitton of Glenview, planned a Sunday outing as families who came to know each other at their children’s mutual preschool school in Northbrook.



From left, parents Ross Good and Danielle Perlin-Good of Northbrook, and parents Jamie and Liad Bitton of Glenview, arrive to the event. The children are Maya Bitton, 5, and Daniela Bitton, 1, Eli Good, 4, and Maya Good, 13 months. Image from The Grove Folk Fest on Oct. 2, 2022 at The Grove National Historic Landmark in Glenview. (Karie Angell Luc / Pioneer Press)

The children are Maya Bitton, 5, and Daniela Bitton, 1, Eli Good, 4, and Maya Good, 13 months.

“We’re just very grateful that we’ve stayed friends,” Danielle Perlin-Good said.

“Especially after COVID, I think it’s just so nice to be able to have fun family activities, to be able to go outside.”

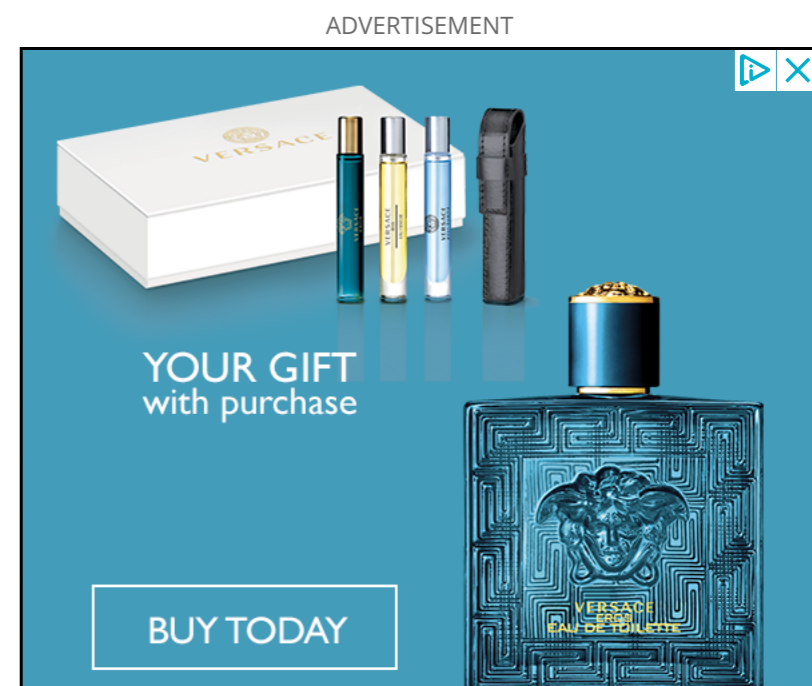
Ross Good said about being outdoors, “We still have this opportunity, we all know winter’s coming.”

Being at The Grove, “gives us a better idea of what life was like back in the day and how we can experience that with the music, and these activities and just be out in the nature,” Jamie Bitton said.

Jamie Bitton’s sister got married at The Grove in 2001.

“It’s nice to come back,” Jamie Bitton said, “and kind of relive it in a different way.”

Karie Angell Luc is a freelancer for Pioneer Press.



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