

Nearly 1,000 Enjoy Clark Park Winter Carnival!

Photos by Bill Deuparo

Frigid temperatures did not keep nearly 1,000 people from spending a fun afternoon at Clark Park enjoying its 12th Annual Winter Carnival & Hockey Charity Classic. A devoted team of volunteers were on hand to give out skates, build fires in the fire pits, pass out snacks and s'more kits and help community folks and visitors who were on skates for the first time – stay upright!

The horse-drawn carriage was a big hit with young and old alike, while kids had the opportunity to feed sheep, goats, and the donkey at the Animal Oasis.

The Huron Metro Parks returned for the third year with their special display of Michigan wildlife, and of course there was lots of marshmallow roasting, while kids played outdoor games, which included a special vegetable tossing game provided by the Kidney Foundation.

Many thanks to the Congress of Communities, Michigan Central, and Joe Louis Greenway who set up tables inside the recreation center for people to learn more about their organizations.

The Winter Carnival ran from noon to 4 p.m., and it was followed by the women's charity hockey game at 6 p.m. and the men's game at 7:30 p.m. These events were great fun for the

whole family and, best of all, they were free!

"Many thanks to our sponsors, volunteers, staff, and supporters who made this day possible," said Kate Brennan, event organizer. "It truly takes a village to put this event together and make it the success it is each year."

The Winter Carnival and outdoor Hockey Classic men's and women's games are crucial fundraisers for the park. "In addition to the generous sponsorships, each hockey player donates a significant amount to play in the game, and it all goes to support year-round programming for the community," said Brennan.

2024 sponsors include Michigan Council of Carpenters and Millwrights, Dan Wood Plumbing & Heating, DTE Energy, Eastside Sports Foundation, Gordie Howe International Bridge, Thriving Neighborhoods, United Irish Societies, the St. Patrick's Parade, Watchmen Ink, Lawrence Technical University, and Inkwell Partners.

It's not too late to donate to this worthwhile organization. Simply go to www.patronicity/clarkparkcharityclassic2024. No donation is too small or too big!

Call 313 841 8534 to learn more about activities at Clark Park.

