

ROCKFORD PARK DISTRICT  
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

SUBJECT: Resolution 98-R-5

DATE: May 26, 1998

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The District wishes to recognize and honor Linda K. White for 25 years of service to the District as a seasonal employee. Linda has served the youth of our community in "Tot Time", "Tot Lot", Summer Playgrounds, Friday Rec Night, and the Holiday Tree Lighting programs, in addition to developing programs for older adults and volunteering for the Illinois Snow Sculpting Competition since its inception.

As the Director of "Tot Time", Linda was located at the nature study lodge in Aldeen Park. Hundreds of young children began their lifetimes of learning, growth and enjoyment in this popular preschool program. The lodge continues to serve young children today through environmental education programs. The dedication of this lodge as *The Linda K. White Youth Learning Center* would be a fitting tribute to a dedicated teacher, coordinator, recreator, volunteer, and dear friend.

A partial list of facilities or structures named in honor of citizens who have contributed significantly to improving the quality of life of the citizens of the Rockford Park District includes: the Joe Standfield Shelter, the Sapora PlayWorld, the John Devereauawax Playground, the Kirk L. Pressing Memorial, Atwood Park, Marinelli Stadium, the Mel Anderson Pathway, the Norris A. Aldeen Golf Club, the Jim Wigner Memorial Playground, the Kevin Erwin Memorial Playground, the Carlson Arctic Ice Arena, Reuben Aldeen Park, Dahlquist Park, Keye-Mallquist Playground, and Mr. G.'s Magic Garden.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Commissioners approve Resolution 98-R-5 dedicating the nature lodge at Aldeen Park as *The Linda K. White Youth Learning Center*.

ACTION TAKEN

5-26-98  
Ayes 5 Nays 0 Absent 0

Submitted by: Webbs Norman, Executive Director

ROCKFORD PARK DISTRICT  
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS

RESOLUTION 98-R-5

WHEREAS, the members of this body are deeply mindful of the contributions of previous boards, citizens, and special friends of the District; and

WHEREAS, Linda K. White served the youth of the Rockford Park District for 25 years in "Tot Time", "Tot Lot", Summer Playgrounds, Friday Rec Night programs, and the Holiday Tree Lighting programs; and

WHEREAS, Linda was a creative and caring leader and teacher of the hundreds of young children who began lifetimes of learning, growth, and enjoyment in the popular preschool program, "Tot Time"; and

WHEREAS, "Tot Time" was held in the nature study lodge located in Reuben Aldeen Park; and

WHEREAS, this lodge continues to serve young children today as the home of "Let's Go See", an environmental education program; and

WHEREAS, The Men and Women of the Rockford Park District recognize and honor Linda White for her extraordinary skills and commitment to the youth of this community; and


WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners wishes to share this remembrance with all citizens of the District, both now and for future generations;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners and the Men and Women of the Rockford Park District do hereby commend, congratulate, and thank Linda K. White for her outstanding service with the Rockford Park District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this nature study lodge be dedicated as *The Linda K. White Youth Learning Center* in tribute to a dedicated leader and teacher, coordinator, recreator, volunteer, and dear friend.

Adopted by the Board of Commissioners on May 26, 1998.

  
Roberta E. Ingrassia, President

  
Webbs Norman, Executive Director

ATTEST:

  
Laura Pigatto Williamson, Secretary

# Linda K. White Youth Learning Center

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## **Dedication Plaque**

With appreciation for the gifts of Linda K. White who taught and directed "Tot Time" in this lodge. The many hundreds of young children who began their lifetimes of learning, growth, and enjoyment in this popular preschool program fondly remember their very first teacher for her warmth, her humor, and her smile.

Linda served the youth of the Rockford Park District for 25 years in "Tot Time," "Tot Lot," summer playgrounds, Friday Rec Night, and the Holiday Tree Lighting, in addition to developing programs for older adults and volunteering for the Illinois Snow Sculpting Competition since its inception.

This Center continues to serve young children today as the home of "Let's Go See," an outdoor learning program. It is re-dedicated as the Linda K. White Youth Learning Center in tribute to a creative and caring individual, who truly touched the future — our children.

*Teacher – Coordinator – Recreator – Volunteer – Dear Friend*

June 9, 1998

Rockford Register Star  
7-2-98

OBITUARY

**Linda Kay White, 54**

Linda Kay White, 54, of Rockford, died at 2:10 p.m. Monday, June 29, 1998, in her residence after a long illness from breast cancer. Born Sept. 26,



1943, in Rockford, the daughter of Gordon R. and Gladys (Frey) Fox. Lifetime Rockford-area resident. Married Michael A. White Sr. in Rockford on July 25, 1964. Employed by Rockford Park District

for 25 years. Member of Bethesda Covenant Church. Attended Rockford schools, graduated from Rockford West High School in 1961 and enjoyed working on various reunion committees. Active on several church boards at Bethesda Covenant Church. She volunteered her time as a big sister to Nichole with the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Organization. She was a board member of Burpee Museum of Natural History. She was a seasonal employee with the Rockford Park District for 25 years. Some of her responsibilities included supervising the decorating of the Christmas tree at Mississippi Gardens, assistant director of senior citizen program (Out and About) at Lockwood Park, teaching pre-school program (Tot Time at Aldeen Park) and supervising high school snow sculpting teams. She enjoyed traveling, quilting, sewing and her lake home in Minocqua, Wis. On June 9, 1998, the Rockford Park District re-dedicated the Aldeen Nature Lodge as the Linda K. White Learning Center. The inscription at the center reads as follows: "With appreciation for the gifts of Linda K. White — Who taught and directed 'Tot Time' in this lodge. The many hundreds of young children who began their lifetimes of learning, growth and enjoyment in this popular preschool fondly remember their very first teacher for her warmth, her humor and her smile. Linda served the youth of the Rockford Park District for 25 years in 'Tot Time', 'Tot Lot', summer playgrounds, Friday Rec Night, and the holiday tree lighting, in addition to developing programs for older adults and volunteering for the Illinois Snow Sculpting Competition since its inception. This center continues to serve young children today as the home of 'Let's Go See', an outdoor learning program. It is re-dedicated as the Linda K. White Youth Learning Center in tribute to a creative and caring individual, who truly touched the future — our children. Teacher - Coordinator - Recreator - Volunteer - Dear Friend. June 9, 1998." Survivors include husband; three sons, Michael (Michele)

White Jr. of Rockford, Matthew White of Columbus, Ohio, and Martin White of Rockford; two grandsons, Logan and Connor White, both of Rockford; sister, Vicki (Michael) Johnston of Wheatland, Wyo.; sister-in-law, Pat (John) Bishoff of Rockford; father-in-law, Lloyd "Bud" White of Independence, Iowa; three nieces, Shannon (Randy) Durick of Prior Lake, Minn., Amy Johnston of Wheatland and Karyn Bishoff of Rockford; nephew, Bart Bishoff of Henderson, Nev.; cousin, Rita (Dennis) Marsh of Peoria, Ill.; many special friends, Kathie Ayres, Lynda Johnson, Shirley Waddell, Jana Crandall, Angie Zuba, Daron and Alex Larson, Vicky Braun, Mary Lou Massay and Greta Heyboer. Predeceased by father in 1996; mother in 1993; and mother-in-law, Dorothy Grubb White in 1987.

Services at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, July 2, in Bethesda Covenant Church with the Rev. John Wiens officiating. Burial in Scandinavian Cemetery. Visitation 5 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 1, in Delehanty Funeral Home Ltd., 401 River Lane, Loves Park. Memorials to Burpee Museum of Natural History. 7-1-2