Mundelein Park & Recreation District

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NEWS RELEASE

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34 YEARS OF SERVICE, MUNDELEIN'S SUPERINTENDENT OF PARKS TO <u>RETIRE</u>

Rita Kipp to enjoy some recreation of her own.

MUNDELEIN, IL —After 34 distinguishing years serving the Mundelein community,

Superintendent of Recreation at Mundelein Park & Recreation District, Rita (Gordon) Kipp will be experiencing things from a different perspective, as a participant. Rita is turning the page from her professional role in the District to starting a new chapter in her life: retirement later this month.

Rita's story at the District is an interesting and exciting one. What started out as a part-time position during her school years and later accepting a full-time position as Athletic Supervisor, the lifelong Mundelein resident found her calling when her passion for parks and recreation and helping people progressed into the position of Superintendent of Recreation at the District.

During her tenure, Mundelein Park District has grown from a small suburban park district to an agency that offers thousands of programs and hundreds of acres of property for people to enjoy. She has

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been instrumental in the growth of the District with the construction of the Community Center and Park View Health and Fitness, Steeple Chase Golf Club, Diamond Lake Sports Complex, Barefoot Bay Family Aquatic Center, and the Regent Center. Throughout her years of service she mentored many young professionals who have gone on to become leaders in their own right, and she earned the distinction of Certified Park & Recreation Professional (CPRP). Most recently, she played a key role in planning for the new recreation center now under construction and scheduled to open next June.

"Rita has been such a strong force in the growth and success of the Park District. We truly would not be the agency we are today without her commitment and professionalism," said Margaret Resnick, Mundelein Park District Executive Director. "She has always supported staff which gave them the ability to serve the public so well. She understands the big picture and put the needs of the agency first."

"I have been blessed to work with amazing people all these years," said Kipp. "My family at the Park District and the residents of our village made my job feel like home. Mundelein is a special place and I still plan to be a part of the community in some capacity, whether it is participating in programs at the District or volunteering for community events."

Rita never turned down a challenge and is the biggest supporter of the staff. and leaves a remarkable legacy. The District extends their heartfelt thanks and wishes her well.

PHOTO: Rita Kipp at Mundelein Park District's Freedom Classic Race, July 2017



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