

# PROCLAMATION

## IN MEMORIAM

### BETTY WHITE

**WHEREAS**, the Oak Park community joins the family of Betty White in mourning her death on December 31, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Oak Park will forever remember Betty White, born on January 17, 1922, in Oak Park, Illinois, as a beloved radio and television performer for over 70 years in the entertainment industry, and as a lifelong advocate for animal health and welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, Betty White was a pioneer in the entertainment industry, as one of the first women to co-found a production company (Bandy Productions), and was the first woman to produce a sitcom (1953s “*Life with Elizabeth*”), and the first woman to receive the Daytime Emmy Award for Outstanding Game Show Host for the show *Just Men!* in 1983; and

**WHEREAS**, Betty White received many awards for her accomplishments on television and film including many awards for her work on the groundbreaking shows *The Mary Tyler Moore Show* and *The Golden Girls*, including five Primetime Emmy Awards, two Daytime Emmy Awards, a Los Angeles Emmy Award, three American Comedy Awards (including a Lifetime Achievement Award), three Screen Actors Guild Awards, a Grammy Award, and was honored with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame on Hollywood Boulevard; and

**WHEREAS**, Betty White was a pet enthusiast and animal health and welfare advocate, supporting numerous animal-related nonprofits throughout her prolific career with organizations including the Los Angeles Zoo Commission, The Morris Animal Foundation, and Actors and Others for Animals; and

**WHEREAS**, in partnership with the Morris Animal Foundation, Betty White established the Betty White Wildlife Fund in response to the Deepwater Horizon Oil disaster in the Gulf of Mexico and its detrimental effects on marine life, which continues to fund research to improve and protect the lives of wild species everywhere and address wildlife disasters; and

**WHEREAS**, Betty White would have been 100 years old on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022, and will be honored with a *Betty White Centennial Celebration* in the Wednesday Journal newspaper on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022, as well as with a live event, sponsored by the Wednesday Journal, at the Lake Theatre on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Oak Park that the sympathy of the officials and citizens of the Village of Oak Park be expressed to Betty White's family, and that this Proclamation in Memoriam be respectfully presented to them and that a copy be preserved in the official records of the Village of Oak Park.

**DATED** this 10<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2022.

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Vicki Scaman, Village President

**ATTEST**

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Christina M. Waters, Village Clerk