

THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 538

Approved October 27, 2004

RESOLVED, That the playground on Dudley Street be named the
"Betty Ruth Williams Park."

IN CITY COUNCIL
OCT 21 2004
READ AND PASSED


PRES. PRO TEMPORE


CLERK

APPROVED


MAYOR

10/27/04

READ AND PASSED
IN CITY COUNCIL

PROCE
11-11-04

IN CITY COUNCIL
JUL 1 2004
FIRST READING
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON
URBAN REDEVELOPMENT
RENEWAL & PLANNING
Clifford A. West
CLERK

THE COMMITTEE ON
URBAN REDEVELOPMENT
RENEWAL & PLANNING
Approves Passage of
The Within Resolution
Ann M. Steen
9-29-04 Clerk

Councilwoman Young

Humanitarian Award Recipient Ms. Ruth Williams



TOUCHED BY A REAL ANGEL

by Deana R. Burns
Community Development Specialist
Urban League of Rhode Island

Once or twice in your life, if you're very lucky, you meet someone who is truly remarkable. The kind of person who reaches out and changes peoples lives for the better. Someone who is so wonderful and loving that you know they are a special angel sent from God. I was fortunate enough to meet one of these people when I visited with Ms. Ruth Williams at her home in Providence. Ms. Williams is this year's recipient of the Urban League of Rhode Island's Humanitarian Award.

Sitting with Ruth in her home I could feel the warmth in the room from the tokens of love given to her by her foster children. On one wall hangs a plaque given to Ruth from her son Maurice it reads, "When I think of love, I think of you, who helped me grow up straight and true. I can never repay you. But ... one thing I can do [is] tell you again ...I love you."

The words foster children are not apart of Ruth's vocabulary, the 64 children that she has taken into her home are simply, "my children." I spoke with Alberta Ali, one of Ruth's foster care children who is now 42 years old and the mother of six children. She told me, "Ma was a good mother and still is. I'm glad she brought me up. She raised all of us kids in the church and taught us how important education was. Ma always made sure we had clothes on our backs and food on the table. Ma was strict, we couldn't smoke or drink or have boys in the house." Alberta feels exceptionally lucky because she was pregnant when she entered the fostercare system. "Nobody wanted pregnant foster children until ma found me and brought me home."

Much of Ruth's strength comes from her spiritual beliefs. She has been a member of God's Holy Tabernacle Church for over 30 years and she serves as Pastor Aid President. Many of Ruth's children sang in the church children's choir. "I'm filled with the Holy Ghost. I've got a mind to live right, do right, and treat everyone right. I'd give my kids anything I have, even my last piece of bread. If I see birds on my porch I feed them, if I see a hungry dog on the street I feed it too." Ruth has passed her caring philosophy on to her children. As Alberta says, "Ma taught me well and I'm trying to pass along her wisdom to my children."

Ruth has a message for parents who will read this article. "It's not about material things - it's about how you raise your child. Today, the world is more wicked than wise. There's so much violence and drug abuse in our society and our kids see all of it. You can't preach to your kids to do right if your not living right yourself."

As I was getting ready to leave, Ruth stood up and began singing an old spiritual song with the words. I want peace and happiness. Ruth is at peace with the knowledge that her life has been well spent. "Honey, Jesus is soon to come. I know I'm going to heaven because in this life I've served God."

6/23/

Bulbina

Resolution naming playground
on Dudley St.

6.15.04

The Family of Betty Ruth Williams
would like to Thank Councilwoman
Bulbina Young, community board
members, city of Providence
and the Parks Dept. for hearing
the proposal on naming the
Park on Dudley St in memory
of the late Betty Ruth Williams.

We are requesting that the
site consist of a group of park
benches, a monument stone, and
a flower garden. There is a
small hill area at the corner
entrance of Prairie and Dudley.
There is also a tree shading the
area. This area is also

located across the street from the home she resided in for many years. We think this location would be ideal.

She was a resident of South Providence for over 50 years and for over 40 years she cared for numerous foster children. She was recognized by the Urban League for her outstanding service. She helped and cared for many people throughout the South Providence community.

City of Providence



Rhode Island

Department of City Clerk

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 21, 2004

TO: Alix Ogden, Superintendent
Parks Department

SUBJECT: Resolution Requesting that the playground on Dudley Street be named the "Betty Ruth Williams Park."

CONSIDERED BY: Anna M. Stetson, Second Deputy City Clerk

DISPOSITION: I have been directed by Councilwoman Balbina A. Young, Chairwoman of the Committee on Urban Redevelopment, Renewal and Planning to refer to you the accompanying resolution for study, report and recommendation.

Please report back in writing to the above-named committee as soon as possible.

Anna M. Stetson
Second Deputy City Clerk

THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 539

Approved October 27, 2004

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK
OCT 27 2004

WHEREAS, Norman E. Fitton, Jr. was instrumental in establishing the Mount Pleasant Crime Watch; and

WHEREAS, He served a President of the Mount Pleasant Crime Watch for eight years; and

WHEREAS, During that time Norman was responsible for the first Community Policing Program in Mount Pleasant; and

WHEREAS, As President he instituted a finger printing and photography identification program for children; and

WHEREAS, He was active and instrumental in numerous community projects such as the Lillian Feinstein Senior Center and developing neighborhood parks at the corner of Chalkstone Avenue and Academy Avenue and the park located next to Roger Williams Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, He was responsible for the Annual Music on the Parkway Program in conjunction with the National Night Out Against Crime for the Providence Police Department; and

WHEREAS, He was selflessly dedicated to the Mount Pleasant and Elmhurst communities; and

WHEREAS, Norman's enthusiastic and untiring efforts contributed greatly to the betterment of these neighborhoods and the community at large.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Members of the Providence City Council do hereby:

Section 1: Name the park located between Pleasant Valley Parkway and Rosebank Avenue situated next to Roger Williams Medial Center the "Norman E. Fitton, Jr. Memorial Park".

Section 2: Request that upon passage, this resolution be sent to his wife Pauline Fitton.

APPROVED

IN CITY COUNCIL
OCT 21 2004
READ AND PASSED

Robert J. Gonyea
PRES. PRO TEMPORE

William S. Clement
CLERK

[Signature]
MAYOR

10/27/04

IN CITY COUNCIL

SEP 2 2004

FIRST READING

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON

URBAN REDEVELOPMENT

RENEWAL & PLANNING

Michael J. Christ
CLERK

THE COMMITTEE ON
URBAN REDEVELOPMENT
RENEWAL & PLANNING

Approves Passage of

The Within Resolution

John M. Steen
Clerk

9-29-04

Councilmen Butler, De Luca, & Rossetti

Off the Docket Matter:

Resolution for September 2, 2004 sponsored by Councilman Patrick K. Butler, Councilman Terrence M. Hassett & Councilman Joseph DeLuca

**A Resolution naming the Park located between Pleasant Valley Parkway and Rosebank Avenue situated next to Roger William Medical Center the;
"Norman E. Fitton, Jr. Memorial Park"**

WHEREAS, Norman E. Fitton, Jr. was instrumental in establishing the Mount Pleasant Crime Watch; and

WHEREAS, he served a President of the Mount Pleasant Crime Watch for eight years; and

WHEREAS, during that time Norman was responsible for the first Community Policing Program in Mount Pleasant; and

WHEREAS, as President he instituted a finger printing and photography identification program for children; and

WHEREAS, he was active and instrumental in numerous community projects such as the Lillian Feinstein Senior Center and developing neighborhood parks at the corner of Chalkstone and Academy Avenue and the park located next to Roger Williams Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, he was responsible for the Annual Music on the Parkway Program in conjunction with the National Night Out Against Crime for the Providence Police Department; and

WHEREAS, he was selflessly dedicated to the Mount Pleasant and Elmhurst communities; and

WHEREAS, Norman's enthusiastic and untiring efforts contributed greatly to the betterment of these neighborhoods and the community at large;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Providence City Council do hereby:

Section 1: Name the park located between Pleasant Valley Parkway and Rosebank Avenue situated next to Roger Williams Medical Center the "Norman E. Fitton, Jr. Memorial Park".

Section 2: Request that upon passage, this resolution be sent to his wife Pauline Fitton.

City of Providence



Rhode Island

Department of City Clerk

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 7, 2004

TO: Alix Ogden, Superintendent
Parks Department

SUBJECT: Resolution Naming the Park located between Pleasant Valley Parkway and Rosebank Avenue situated next to Roger Williams Medical Center the; "Norman E. Fitton, Jr. Memorial Park".

CONSIDERED BY: Anna M. Stetson, Second Deputy City Clerk

DISPOSITION: I have been directed by Councilwoman Balbina A. Young, Chairwoman of the Committee on Urban Redevelopment, Renewal and Planning to refer to you the accompanying resolution for study, report and recommendation.

Please report back in writing to the above-named committee as soon as possible.

Anna M. Stetson
Second Deputy City Clerk