

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Jessie Ailene Robinson was born on July 28, 1923, in Evansville, Indiana, where she graduated from the Benjamin Bosse High School in June 1941. After graduation, Jessie went to work at "The Baby Shop," a local Evansville business; and

WHEREAS, Jessie eloped with fellow classmate William E. Partington to Kentucky. They had three children, Janie Lou now living in Bunnell, Carol Ann of Tampa, and William E. "Bill" Partington, II of Ormond Beach. Jessie and Bill were married for 35 years; and

WHEREAS, Jessie and Bill lived in Tampa, Florida, a short time before moving to Ormond Beach where they rented a house on Grove Street. In 1961, the Partingtons moved into a new house on Capri Drive, where Jessie still resides; and

WHEREAS, in 1953, when Granada Avenue was a two-lane brick street and only a few thousand people lived in Ormond Beach, Jessie and Bill started the Ormond Hardware Company located in the Bushman Building. They built the first 7-11 convenience store in 1957, and in 1959 a new hardware store at 50 West Granada, which became the first local Ace Hardware franchise in 1964. Jessie worked continually in the family hardware and locksmith business until her retirement just a couple of years ago. Those were the days when the hardware store and post office were favorite meeting spots and everyone knew each other and telephone numbers had fewer digit, and the Granada Bridge was wooden and built on the old railroad trestle to the Ormond Hotel...and a cow was tethered at the railroad passenger station on White Street to keep the grass mowed!; and

WHEREAS, Jessie and her family have supported causes such as youth baseball and other sports, Art-in-the-Park, Boulevard 2000, the Celtic Festival, Chamber of Commerce, Christmas Parade, Downtown Redevelopment Tax District, Form-based codes, Jazz-Matazz, July 4th Fireworks, Magic Forest Playground, Ormond Arts District, Ormond MainStreet, Ormond Library Guild, Riverfest, Rotary Club, PTA and Band Parents Association, Seafood Festival, Woman's Club, and the Ormond Yacht Club, to name a few; and

WHEREAS, Jessie is 90 years "young" today and celebrating her birthday with her children, six grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren, three great-great grandchildren, and friends;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ed Kelley, Mayor of the City of Ormond Beach, do hereby proclaim July 27, 2013, as

JESSIE PARTINGTON DAY

in the City of Ormond Beach and urge all residents to join with me this day in tribute to Jessie Partington as she celebrates her 90th birthday.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Ormond Beach, to be affixed this 27th day of July in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Thirteen.



Ed Kelley
ED KELLEY
Mayor