



Proclamation

WHEREAS, James C. Lillard was born on August 27, 1927 in the state of Missouri and moved to Sparks in 1935. He was educated at Robert Mitchell School, Sparks Junior High School, Sparks High School and obtained a B.A. in Business Administration at Reno Business College. He served in the United States Navy during World War II. James married his high school sweetheart, Colleen Browning and they had a son, Jimmy, and a daughter, Tina; and

WHEREAS, James Lillard was very active in many community service programs and was elected to office as Mayor of the City of Sparks in June 1971, and again in June 1975, serving until 1979. James had one phrase that he promoted throughout his political career: "I'll give you the best protection, recreation and comfort for your tax dollar" and his philosophy was: "never make promises you can't keep;" and

WHEREAS, James Lillard and his council are credited with starting redevelopment downtown and creating several parks and expanding police and fire protection and a leisure services department – all without a tax increase; and

WHEREAS, James Lillard was also a Washoe County Commissioner from January 1983 to May 1991. Additionally, he served as a vice-chairman on the Reno Sparks Convention and Visitor Authority and the Washoe Medical Center Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, The James C. Lillard Railroad Park was named in his honor and was dedicated by the Sparks Bicentennial Commission on July 4, 1976. The park features a train display of a replica depot, a steam locomotive and three Southern Pacific Railroad cars.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GENO R. MARTINI, Mayor of the City of Sparks, Nevada, do hereby proclaim Sunday, May 14th 2017 as:

"JIM LILLARD DAY"

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Sparks, Nevada to be affixed this 19th day of April, 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Geno R. Martini".

GENO R. MARTINI, Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Teresa Gardner".

TERESA GARDNER, City Clerk

