

City of Saint Paul

Proclamation

Whereas, James Thornton and Julia Terrell Toliver ventured from Rock Island, Illinois to Saint Paul, Minnesota in 1907 with young daughter, Mary Alice, settled on Rice Street and welcomed their children Lillian Ruth and James Jr.; and

Whereas, James Sr. was a longtime Red Cap at the Saint Paul Union Depot, later joined by James Jr.; and

Whereas, Robert Archie Jones moved from Thoroughfare, VA, to D.C., then to Saint Paul and married Mary Alice Toliver in 1932; they settled in the Rondo Community and, ultimately, 1022 Rondo Ave, raising six children, and were active citizens; and

Whereas, Robert Jones enjoyed a distinguished career at the Saint Paul Post Office and, there, became Minnesota's first African American Supervisor; was Advertising Manager of the Recorder/Spokesman newspapers; and

Whereas, Robert and Mary Jones were active in the Rondo Community, hosting proactive meetings in their home with civil rights activist friends Roy Wilkins, Clarence Mitchell, Whitney Young and C.W. Washington; and

Whereas, Robert Jones was active on NAACP/Urban League boards and Mary Jones actively supported the Hallie Q. Brown Center; and

Whereas, the Jones-Toliver family will assemble in St. Paul from July 16-18th for a reunion celebrating its St. Paul roots and many civic contributions to our great community,

Now, Therefore, I, Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor of the City of Saint Paul, do hereby proclaim July 16, 2015 to be:

Jones-Toliver Family Day

in the City of Saint Paul.



In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the of the City of Saint Paul to be affixed this Sixteenth Day of July in the Year Two Thousand Fifteen.

Christopher B. Coleman

Christopher B. Coleman, Mayor

In 2015, Marion Jones Kennon, her family, and most of her siblings and their families gathered in St. Paul for a reunion. At this time, both the State of Minnesota and the City of St. Paul declared July 16, 2015, "Jones-Toliver Family Day." *Courtesy of Marion Jones Kennon family archives.*