

ideals, if we do not forget that our nation was founded on the premise that all men are creatures of God's making, the world will come to know that it is free men who carry forward the true promise of human progress and dignity." Indeed, Josh's life was the embodiment of this. He was a man who was known by persons of all races, ages, and religions for both his kind deeds and his loving, unselfish heart.

Madam Speaker, dedicated service to others has been the embodiment of Josh's life. May we all use his wisdom and selflessness as a beacon of direction and a source of true enlightenment. Indeed, may God bless to all of our memories the life and legacy of Private Joshua Mozingo.

#### BLACK HISTORY MONTH

### HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 1, 2007*

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Madam Speaker, this last day of February marks the end of Black History Month, the annual celebration commemorating the contributions of African Americans to this great Nation. I thought it fitting, as its Representative, to pay tribute to the some of the many great African Americans that hail from the Sixth Congressional District of New York.

Most people are surprised to learn that since the Harlem Renaissance, Queens has been known as the true "Home of Jazz"—the residence of choice for hundreds of our greatest African American jazz artists.

At the height of their popularity, jazz greats Count Basie, Fats Waller, Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald and Lena Horne lived on the quiet tree lined streets of historic Addisleigh Park. Musicians Milt Hinton, Mercer Ellington and Charles "Cootie" Williams made this historic neighborhood their home as well.

A few blocks away, jazz greats John Coltrane, Lester Young, Illinois Jaquet and Charlie Mingus lived in Jamaica, Queens. And in nearby Hollis, drummer Roy Hanes, vibraphonist Milt Jackson, and trumpeter Roy Eldridge lived a city block or two away from each other. Their neighbors in Springfield Gardens included brothers Albert and Percy Heath, drummer and bass player.

What songs would Harry Belafonte have made famous without Queensite Irving Burgie's song stylings? He wrote or composed 35 of the Caribbean crooner's songs including his most famous "Day-O".

Adding to Jamaica's rich history as the home of African American artists is the Great Godfather of Soul, James Brown, who lived in a stately tudor in Addisleigh Park. His home was within walking distance of singer-songwriter Brook Benton—famous for "A Rainy Night in Georgia".

During the mid-1970's, the Hip-Hop Era came into existence in the United States and pioneering Black youths from Hollis, Queens helped to develop and make it famous. Russell Simmons, with his Def Jam record label and Phat Farm clothing line, became hip-hop's first millionaire mogul. His brother Joseph (Run) Simmons along with Darryl (DMC) McDaniels, and Jason "Jam-Master Jay" Mizell formed the group Run-DMC and are credited with making hip-hop a large part of

modern pop culture. LL Cool J, known as the Hip-Hop Statesman hails from Hollis, Queens as well.

From the sports world, The Great Joe Louis—World Heavyweight Boxing Champion from 1937 to 1949, and Jackie Robinson, the first Black major league baseball player in the country, lived in Addisleigh Park. Former Knicks' forward Anthony Mason was born and raised in St. Albans.

The Sixth Congressional District has been home to many African American Statesmen, including Ralph Bunche—the 1950 Nobel Peace Prize Winner, Roy Wilkins—civil rights leader, Andrew Young—former Ambassador to the United Nations, Colin Powell—this Nation's first Black Secretary of State and Rev. Al Sharpton—political and civil rights advocate.

I would be remiss if I did not pay tribute to Mr. Clarence Irving, founder of the Black American Heritage Foundation and the U.S. Postal Service's Black Heritage Stamp Series who lives in Jamaica, Queens.

When one thinks of original American music, both jazz and hip hop come to mind. I represent the district where many of the great artists from these genres chose to live.

When one thinks of African American athletes that broke down barriers many of those who come to mind are from Jamaica, Queens.

When one thinks of African American leadership, some of our most dedicated, eloquent representatives have called my district "home".

It is an honor to salute the accomplishments of these distinguished and talented African Americans from the district I represent. I look forward with hope and encouragement to those that will continue their great legacy.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE MOTOR-SPORTS FAIRNESS AND PERMANENCY ACT

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 1, 2007*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Motor-sports Fairness and Permanency Act." This bill permanently extends the current tax treatment of motorsports complexes across the country.

There are five motorsports facilities located in my district alone—and more than 900 of these facilities nationwide. Each year, these facilities, both large and small, draw millions of racing fans. Spending by these fans contributes to local and regional economies—but the tracks themselves contribute as well, through facility construction and renovation, purchases, and permanent and seasonal employment.

In 2004, Congress codified the seven-year depreciation classification for speedways and racetracks. However, this provision expires at the end of this year. These facilities need tax certainty in order to make their long-term planning decisions and continue contributing to national, regional and local economies.

In order to provide this certainty, I am introducing the Motorsports Fairness and Permanency Act. I hope that my colleagues will work with me to enact this legislation, which will support the economic benefits provided by motorsports facilities in my district and nationwide.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE LATE STATE SENATOR SHERMAN JONES

### HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 1, 2007*

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay a personal tribute to my good friend and trusted advisor for many years, former State Senator Sherman Jones of Kansas City, Kansas, who died on February 21. For many years, he was a leading member of the Kansas City, Kansas, community, as well as a valued member of my kitchen cabinet and surrogate speaker on my political team. His friends and neighbors mourn his loss and will miss him terribly—none more so than me.

Sherman Jones was born on February 10, 1935, in Winton, North Carolina. After high school, he was recruited to play baseball, where he eventually served for three seasons as a pitcher in the major leagues for the Cincinnati Reds, New York Mets, and San Francisco Giants. He pitched in the World Series for the Cincinnati Reds in 1961. Jones, whose baseball nickname was "Roadblock", appeared in game five of the 1961 Series, against the New York Yankees, pitching two-thirds of an inning. One of eight Reds pitchers in the game, he was the only one who did not allow either a hit or a run.

While playing baseball in Topeka, Kansas, Sherman met Amelia Buchanan; they married on December 16, 1956. After he completed his baseball career, they settled in Kansas City, Kansas, to raise their family. He joined the Kansas City police department, where he retired after 22 years of service. He also served as athletic director for Turner House, working with inner city youth. His community involvement led him to politics, where he served as a member of the Kansas House of Representatives from 1988 to 1992, followed by service in the Kansas Senate from 1992 to 2000. At the time of his retirement from the Senate, he served as ranking Democratic member of the Committee on Federal and State Affairs, and as a member of the Committees on Confirmations Oversight, Education, Public Health and Welfare, Utilities, and Health Care Reform Legislative Oversight.

During his rich, full life, Sherman Jones was involved with many organizations, including: Optimist International, where he served as international vice president; the Wyandotte County Park Board, where he served as member and chairman; the Kansas City, Kansas, Parks Foundation; the Kansas High School Activities Association; United Way; the Kansas Legislative Black Caucus, which he chaired; and the Kansas University Medical Center, where he served as board member.

Former Senator Sherman Jones is survived by his wife of 50 years, Amelia, three children, a sister, five brothers, eight grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Madam Speaker, I know that you and the entire House of Representatives join with me in celebrating the life of Senator Sherman Jones and in sharing the loss felt by Amelia Jones, their family and their many friends.