



# DETROIT NEGRO LEAGUES CENTENNIAL SYMPOSIUM

Thursday, September 24, 2020

### SPONSORED by COMERICA BANK

Symposium is free to all; no registration required.

Morning session will be streamed live via ZOOM and Facebook as well as recorded for later viewing www.DetroitStars.org

#### **HOST PARTNERS**

- Friends of Historic Hamtramck Stadium
- Detroit Historical Society
- Black Historic Sites Committee
- Detroit Chapter of the Society for American Baseball Research
- Piast Institute of Hamtramck

#### **HEADLINE EVENT**

- Welcome address by Wayne County CEO Warren Evans
- "Why the Negro Leagues Still Matter" address by Gary Gillette and Karen Hudson Samuels
- Moderated panel discussion at Detroit Historical Museum
  - Panelists Phil Dixon, Coach Ron Teasley, Mike "Tiger" Price, Mitch Lutzke (via ZOOM)
     plus Gary Gillette and moderator Jamon Jordan (at Museum)
  - One-hour discussion staged without audience
  - Recorded for later viewing on Symposium Website and Detroit Historical Society Facebook page

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

- Ten presentations previously recorded by presenters at their homes or offices
  - o Presentations vary in length from 5–45 minutes
- Posted on Symposium Web site & Detroit Historical Society Facebook page for free viewing after panel discussion

#### PANELISTS' BACKGROUNDS

- Jordan is the founder and director of The Black Scroll Network, History and Tours in Detroit.
- Dixon is a teacher and author as well as one of the preeminent historians of the Negro Leagues. He is the author of ten books about Black Baseball, including the award-winning Negro Leagues Baseball: A Photographic History.
- Coach Teasley is a Detroit native and a pioneering athlete at Wayne State and coach at Northwestern High School. He played in the Negro Leagues in 1948 and is a member of the Wayne State Athletic Hall of Fame as well as several other Halls of Fame.
- Lutzke is a history teacher in Williamston, MI, and the author of the award -winning *Page Fence Giants: A History of Black Baseball's Pioneering Champions*.
- Samuels is the chair of the Black Historic Sites Committee and the director of the WGPR-TV/William V. Banks Broadcasting Museum in Detroit
- Gillette is the founder and chair of the Friends of Historic Hamtramck Stadium. He is currently
  writing a new history of the Detroit Stars and the Negro Leagues in Detroit as well as editing a
  new edition of James A. Riley's landmark *Biographical Encyclopedia of the Negro Baseball*Leagues.

#### TOUR OF HISTORIC NEGRO LEAGUE SITES IN DETROIT

- Caravan of cars with tour participants driving themselves to sites
- Begins at 1 p.m. at Detroit Historical Museum
- No registration required and no cost to tour participants
- Participants may join or leave tour at any time/at any site
- Pre-recorded, narrative MP3 audio files describing the history and importance of each site will be available for download prior to tour
- Tour material will be posted online after September 24 for anyone to conduct their own selfguided tour
- September 24 tour itinerary details below
- "TOURISTS" MUST WEAR MASKS & OBSERVE SOCIAL DISTANCING OUTSIDE OF THEIR VEHICLES

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Check out Symposium Web site at www.DetroitStars.org
- Check out Detroit Historical Society Facebook page at https://www.Facebook.com/DetroitHistoricalMuseum

## Detroit Negro League Centennial Symposium Tour of Local Negro League Sites

| Start     | Duration/ | Event   | Notes   |
|-----------|-----------|---|---|
| Time      | Mins      |   |   |
| 1:00 p.m. | 15        | Tour departs Detroit Historical Museum for Comerica Park  | Car caravan w/ MP3 audio support  |
| 1:15 p.m. | 20        | Visit Turkey Stearnes plaque on Adams Street facade of Comerica Park, just west of the park's left field entrance at Adams & Brush.   | Park on Brush Street  |
| 1:35 p.m. | 15        | Drive to Briggs/Tiger Stadium site Michigan & Cochrane in Corktown.   | Car caravan w/ MP3 audio support  |
| 1:50 p.m. | 30        | Visit Detroit PAL Headquarters and Willie Horton Field of Dreams at<br>The Corner Ballpark presented by Adient, including Turkey Stearnes' spot<br>on PAL's "Walk of Fame"  | Park on street near main entrance on<br>Michigan Ave. just east of Cochrane                         |
| 2:20 p.m. | 20        | Drive to Hamtramck Stadium (3201 Dan Street in Hamtramck)   | Car caravan w/ MP3 audio support  |
| 2:40 p.m. | 40        | Visit Turkey Stearnes Field at Hamtramck Stadium (includes presentations) plus nearby State of Michigan Historic Marker on Jos. Campau (within easy walking distance)   | Park in lot on Dan Street behind<br>Stadium   |
| 3:20 p.m. | 15        | Drive by former site of Dequindre Park (Dequindre at Modern) in North Detroit (no stop)   | Car caravan w/ MP3 audio support  |
| 3:35 p.m. | 20        | Drive to former site of Mack Park (Mack at Fairview) on East Side   | Car caravan w/ MP3 audio support  |
| 3:55 p.m. | 20        | Talk by Gary Gillette at Mack Park site   | Park on Fairview Street   |
| 4:15 p.m. | 10        | Drive to Ossian Sweet house (Garland & Charlevoix, 7 blocks away)   | Park on Garland Street  |
| 4:25 p.m. | 30        | Visit site of historic Ossian Sweet house. Talk by Daniel Baxter of Ossian Sweet Foundation, who grew up in the house and is the current owner  | Meet in front of house at 2905 Garland  |
| 4:55 p.m. | 15        | Drive to historic Church of the Messiah at East Grand Boulevard and Lafayette. The Church occupies the site of former Boulevard Park where 1895 series between Page Fence Giants and white 'Picked Nine' team was played. Boulevard Park was the first home of Detroit Tigers (1894–95) | Car caravan w/ MP3 audio support  |
| 5:10 p.m. | 20        | Remarks at Church of the Messiah by Reverend Barry Randolph, Church<br>Pastor, and by Detroit Negro Leagues historian Gary Gillette   | Park on East Grand Boulevard or<br>Lafayette Streets  |
| 5:30 p.m. |           | End of tour. Depart from here or drive by former site of Sand Lotter's Park at Jefferson and Adair east of downtown   | Car caravan w/ MP3 audio support back to Historical Museum for those who left vehicles parked there |