

BY THE COMMON COUNCIL

Resolution congratulating Lonnie 'Showboat' Harris on the honor bestowed to him by the Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Club on the occasion of its eighth annual Negro Leagues Tribute event on July 20, 2013.

WHEREAS,

LONNIE 'SHOWBOAT' HARRIS

was honored during the eighth annual Negro Leagues Tribute event on July 20, 2013, at Miller Park during the Brewers – Marlins MLB game, on a day devoted to honoring the great players of the Negro Leagues; and

WHEREAS, *Lonnie 'Showboat' Harris was born on January 31, 1930 in New York, New York and began his career in 1953, and over the years played for the Birmingham Black Barons and Memphis Red Sox; and*

WHEREAS, *During his career, Lonnie 'Showboat' Harris was the 1953 Negro Leagues 'Rookie of the Year,' and played in the 1953 and 1955 East-West All Star games, playing against All Stars that included Willie Mays and Hank Aaron; and*

WHEREAS, *Off the field, Lonnie 'Showboat' Harris worked his way through college and earned three bachelor's degrees and one master's from the University of Memphis, in sociology, psychology and art, and used his education to teach special education and to serve on the board of education for 20 years; and*

WHEREAS, *Mr. Harris works as a volunteer with senior citizens and disabled students and has received awards for his civic involvement; and*

WHEREAS, *The Brewers have recognized 15 other Negro League players to date at the annual event, which includes an auction of Milwaukee Bears uniforms worn by Brewers players and coaches, and the proceeds from the auction go to the Brewers Community Foundation to benefit the Yesterday's Negro League Baseball Players Foundation and the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City; and*

WHEREAS, *For his invaluable contributions to baseball, Lonnie 'Showboat' Harris had his name placed on a permanent display at Miller Park, and he will be inducted into the Yesterday's Negro League Hall of Fame, located at Mother Kathryn Daniel's Conference Center; now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith congratulates Lonnie 'Showboat' Harris on the honor bestowed to him by the Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Club on the occasion of its eighth annual Negro Leagues Tribute event, thanks him on behalf of the community for his many contributions to baseball and wishes him continued health and happiness; and, be it*

FURTHER RESOLVED, *That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to Lonnie 'Showboat' Harris.*

***Introduced and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on September 4, 2013:
Willie L. Hines, Jr., Joe Davis, Sr., Ashanti Hamilton, Joe Dudzik, Robert J. Bauman, Jim Bohl, Milele A. Coggs, Willie C. Wade, Robert G. Donovan, Robert W. Puente, Michael J. Murphy, Joe Dudzik, José G. Pérez, Terry L. Witkowski and Tony Zielinski.***