

City of Newark

City Hall 920 Broad Street Newark, New Jersey 07102

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 20-1274 Version: 1 Name: Resolution: Ceremonial Street Designation - John

Arthur Thomas (MC)

Type: Resolution Status: Adopted

File created: 10/6/2020 In control: Municipal Council and City Clerk

On agenda: 10/7/2020 Final action: 10/7/2020

Title: Dept/ Agency: Offices of Municipal Council/City Clerk

Action: () Ratifying (X) Authorizing () Amending

Type of Service: Ceremonial Street Designation

Honoree: John Arthur Thomas Date(s): Saturday, October 10, 2020

Official Street Name(s): Intersection of Summit Street and Sussex Avenue

Ceremonial Intersection Name: John Arthur Thomas Way

Sponsor: Council President, Mildred C. Crump

Additional Information:

Sponsors: Mildred C. Crump, Council of the Whole

Indexes:

Code sections:

| Date | Ver. | Action By | Action | Result |
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| 10/7/2020 | 1 | Municipal Council | Adopt | Pass |

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Additional Information:

WHEREAS, Ordinance 6PDF-e, adopted on May 20, 2015, authorizes the designation of an intersection, etc. for honorary and ceremonial purposes; and

WHEREAS, John Arthur Thomas, noted Newark educator and co-founder of the famed Newark's Crispus Attucks Day Parade, the first Statewide parade celebrating the accomplishments of African-Americans, and the genesis of not only present day African-American parade celebrations, but also other ethnicities celebrating their respective cultural heritage and contributions to America's history and founding; and

WHEREAS, John Arthur Thomas, who was born and raised in Newark, New Jersey, was a renowned educator and beloved history teacher at Newark's Central High School, whose passion and commitment to educating his students on the unmasking of African and African-American contributions and influence on world history showed no bounds; and

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WHEREAS, he was a proud member of "America's Greatest Generation", serving in the Pacific Theater for the United States Army during World War II and was honorably discharged in 1946. Shortly thereafter, he went on to earn several degrees in education, including Bachelor and Master Degrees from Rutgers University and graduate credits from the prestigious Columbia University. He began his illustrious teaching career with the Newark Board of Education in 1952 and later taught at Rutgers University School of Education and the Rutgers University African-American Studies Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, THAT:

- 1. The Municipal Council hereby authorizes the honorary and ceremonial renaming of the intersection of Summit Street and Sussex Avenue as "John Arthur Thomas Way".
- 2. The official name of the said streets shall remain Summit Street and Sussex Avenue in their entirety.

<u>STATEMENT</u>

This resolution authorizes the renaming of the intersection of Summit Street and Sussex Avenue as "John Arthur Thomas Way" for honorary and ceremonial purposes.