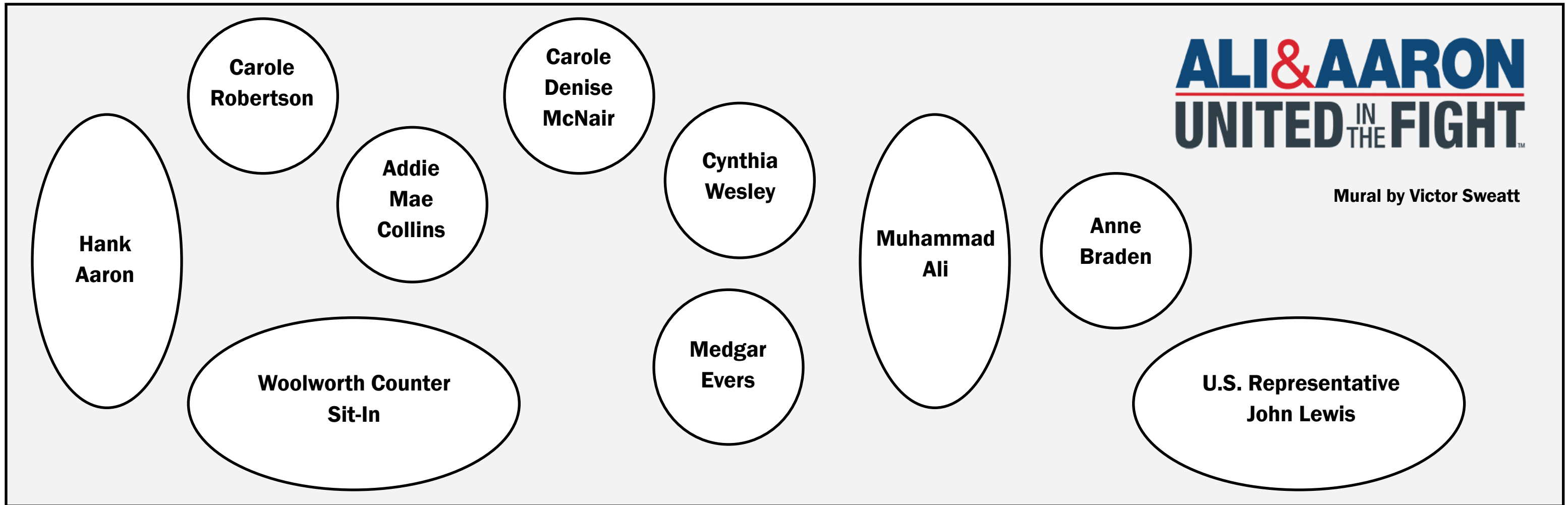


Mural by Victor Sweatt



Hank Aaron

Born February 5, 1934 in Mobile, AL. Started career in Negro leagues. MLB debut with Milwaukee Braves, 1954. 25-time All-Star, 755 home runs, .305 batting average, 3771 hits. Regularly separated from team on road trips due to racial segregation in 1950s. Broke Ruth's home run record at age 39 with 715th HR on April 8, 1974, after months of death threats. Retired 1976. Baseball Hall of Fame, 1982. Founded "Chasing the Dream Foundation" providing scholarships to youth. Medal of Freedom, 2002. Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory Living Legend, 2009. Atlanta Braves executive. Tweeted: "We've lost a giant in Muhammad Ali. He did things his own way and I'm so appreciative to have known him for so long. God rest his soul."

Woolworths Counter Sit-In

On May 28, 1963, students and faculty members from Tougaloo College, a historically Black school, staged a sit-in protesting segregated lunch counters at the Woolworths in Jackson, Mississippi. As shown here, the peaceful protesters had sugar, ketchup, and mustard dumped on them. One was beaten and another was dragged by her hair. Female students pulled from their stools fought their way back to continue the sit-in. The activists endured jeers and threats for several hours. Afterwards at NAACP headquarters, Field Secretary Medgar Evers told organizers the sit-in was the start of Jackson being a leader in civil rights activism. Two weeks later, Evers was assassinated outside his Jackson home.

Medgar Evers

Civil Rights leader. World War II veteran. NAACP's first Field Secretary in Mississippi in 1954. Organized boycott of segregated gas stations with, "Don't Buy Gas Where You Can't Use the Restroom" campaign. Shot while getting out of car at home in Jackson on June 12, 1963. Hospital would not admit him because of his race. After family explained who he was, hospital allowed entry. Evers died 50 minutes after that. He was 37 years old. Evers was buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery. A Ku Klux Klan member was convicted of the murder 31 years later.

1963 Alabama Church Bombing

On September 15, 1963, at the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, AL, a bomb exploded, killing four girls. Over the next 40 years, three members of a Ku Klux Klan splinter group were convicted of murdering these girls:

Carole Robertson, 14. Loved music, reading. Member of Science Club, Girl Scouts.

Addie Mae Collins, 14. Played softball, artistic. Little sister, Sarah, seriously injured.

Carole Denise McNair, 11. Performed plays, dances, poetry readings in the family car port raising money for charity.

Cynthia Wesley, 14. Enjoyed math and reading. Member of school band.

Muhammad Ali

Born Cassius Clay in Louisville, KY, January 17, 1942. Olympic Gold Medalist, 1960. Three-time WBA Heavyweight Champ. Changed name to Muhammad Ali after converting to Islam, 1964. Resisted 1966 Vietnam War draft as conscientious objector. Convicted of draft evasion, titles stripped, banned from boxing for 3 years. Supreme Court overturned conviction, 1971. Dominated sport and pop culture with personality, poetry, activism until 1981 retirement. Diagnosed with Parkinson's, 1984. Continued humanitarian efforts. Lit Olympic Torch cauldron, Atlanta, 1996. Awarded Medal of Freedom, 2005. Died of septic shock, June 3, 2016 at age 74. Buried in Louisville's Cave Hill Cemetery. Prayed before fights, as depicted here.

Anne Braden

Louisville native. Activist, journalist, educator. With husband, purchased home for African-American couple who had not been allowed to buy a house in a Louisville suburb. After couple moved in, cross was burned on front lawn and home was bombed. Started *Southern Organizing Committee for Economic and Social Justice* and *Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression*. Taught at University of Louisville and Northern Kentucky University. Died in Louisville at age 81 in 2006. The next year, U of L opened The Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research.

U.S. Representative John Lewis

Since 1987, House Rep. for 5th Congressional district of Georgia, including most of Atlanta. Depicted here being beaten during Selma-to-Montgomery March across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in 1965, when he was 21 years old. Suffered skull fracture. Son of sharecroppers. Chair of *Student Non-Violent Coordinating Comm.* Helped plan March on Washington, 1963. Freedom Rider. Arrested many times for sit-ins to desegregate Nashville. Awarded Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2011. Continues activist protests and sit-ins as U.S. Rep. In 2015, Lewis marked 50th Anniversary of March to Selma by walking across Pettus Bridge with President Barack Obama, first African-American US President.

Black Lives Matter

A movement formed in 2012 after Trayvon Martin was shot and killed in Sanford, FL by a neighborhood watch coordinator, who was acquitted. In the words of co-founder, Alicia Garza, "Black Lives Matter doesn't mean your life isn't important – it means that Black lives, which are seen as without value within White supremacy, are important to your liberation When Black people get free, everybody gets free We're not saying Black lives are more important than other lives, or that other lives are not criminalized and oppressed in various ways. We remain in active solidarity with all oppressed people who are fighting for their liberation and we know that our destinies are intertwined."

ALI & AARON

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