

soul," Mr. James Brown, KC is also affectionately known as the "Local James Brown" throughout the entertainment circles in North America and members of his international fan club. Along with his own musical group, the International Band, KC has performed at major events and famous places including the West Indian Labor Day Parade in Brooklyn, the Harlem Day Parade, Manhattan's Annual Halloween Parade, the MGM and Sahara casino in Las Vegas, and the Royal Caribbean and Carnival cruises, just to name a few.

KC's summer concerts were launched in 1989 at his garage at East 87th Street in East Flatbush, Brooklyn where he held a huge block party on Memorial Day. In order to accommodate the growing crowd that came to yearly event, in 1991, KC moved his Caribbean style street festival to Ditmas Avenue near his East 87th Street garage. The event covered ten blocks. The event continued at Ditmas Avenue until 1996, when KC took his show and a loyal following of thousands to its new home on Atlantic Avenue.

Spanning 10,000 square feet and a maximum occupancy of 4,300, the Hideaway is a spacious outdoor venue located at 2494 Atlantic, in an industrial section of Brooklyn. Since 1998, the Hideaway, which is owned and managed by KC, has been hosting its hallmark Summer Concert Series featuring today's leading soca, calypso, and reggae musical acts from around the Caribbean and here in the United States. Along with top performers, the Hideaway showcases some of the most popular Caribbean-American DJs. It is also equipped with a fully licensed bar, a professional sized stage, and an elevated VIP lounge where performing artist and special guests can view and enjoy the shows.

KC's Hideaway has become a major attraction for thousands of Caribbean music lovers from around the world who are drawn to Brooklyn, the Caribbean Capital of the United States, year after year to celebrate the West Indian Labor Day Carnival season, which begins in May. The venue stages around 66 shows a year and the number of concertgoers has steadily increased over the past three years. The concert grew from an audience of about 80,000 for the season in 1998, to approximately 165,000 for this season.

Mr. Speaker, St. Blasé "KC" Charles has developed and created a major cultural event in his community, which has brought thousands of people to Brooklyn each year to celebrate their Caribbean heritage. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE TO FATHER STEPHEN PATRICK WISNESKE

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an individual who has been a spiritual guide for the Catholic community in Menominee, Michigan, Father Stephen Patrick Wisneske. On July 1st, "Father Pat" will be retiring from Holy Spirit Parish, where he has been pastor for the last 32 years. Throughout

that time, his leadership, his generous spirit, and his warm sense of humor have all been important sources of inspiration and comfort. He will be sorely missed.

Father Pat Wisneske was ordained on June 3rd, 1950, embarking on a 54-year journey in the clergy that touched countless lives in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. In 1950 and 1951, he served as an Assistant Pastor at Holy Trinity Parish in Ironwood, and St. Thomas Parish in Escanaba, respectively. In 1953, he began a six year tenure as Assistant Pastor at St. Mary and St. Joseph Parish in Iron Mountain, Michigan. During this time, he also served as the Chaplain for the VA hospital in Iron Mountain. From 1959 to 1963, he was the Administrator of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Franklin Mine.

In 1963, Father Pat became the pastor of St. Stephen Parish in Loretto and served there for three years before transferring to St. Jude Parish in White Pine, where he also oversaw the St. Ann mission in Bergland. After the Bergland mission was transferred to a parish in Marenisco in 1967, Father Pat became the temporary administrator of Holy Family Parish in Ontonagon until 1972.

The spring of 1972 was a very tense time for Menominee Catholics as they awaited the final outcome of a two year study that would eventually consolidate their parishes. When the members of the new Holy Spirit Parish learned that Father Pat would be their new pastor, they wondered what kind of pastor he would be. It did not take long to realize that he was a kind and gentle man who was indeed a "present" to them. Through the sadness of illness or death, and the joy of baptisms, marriages, first communions and confirmations, Father Pat was always there to offer guidance, leadership, spirit, faith, and friendship.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to his parish assignments, Father Pat was always willing to take on additional duties and leadership roles. Over the years he has served as the director of the deacon program for the diocese, twice as Dean, President of the St. Joseph's Association, and a member of the Priest's Council. He has also given of his time to serve as a chaplain for different organizations including the VA hospital in Iron Mountain, the Knights of Columbus, the Daughters of Isabella, and the Civil Air Patrol.

Another example of Father Pat's leadership has been his unwavering commitment to the youth of the community. He has been steadfast in his support for Menominee Catholic Central Schools, and he has always enjoyed working with young people, recognizing that they are indeed the future.

Those of us who know and love Father Pat have our own special stories of this remarkable individual. On a personal note, when tragedy struck my family, it was Father Pat who consoled us, reassured us, and provided comfort for us in our time of greatest need. Father Pat's kindness, spiritual guidance, and love will never be forgotten and we will always be indebted to him.

Mr. Speaker, 32 years after he came to Menominee and Holy Spirit Parish, it is time to bid a very fond and difficult farewell to Father Pat. He often said that he was energized by his parishioners, but they in turn would say they were energized by Father Pat. He was always present for us, giving us, the members of our Holy Spirit family, our Menominee Community, and our God the best present he

could—himself. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in honoring and thanking Father Patrick Wisneske for his dedicated service to his parish and the Catholic faith community throughout the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LA RENAISSANCE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the owners and the staff of La Renaissance, a family owned restaurant in Pueblo, Colorado. For twenty-six years, La Renaissance has been an icon in the Pueblo community. It is my pleasure to recognize their dedication to Pueblo and the State of Colorado before this body of Congress and this nation today.

In 1978, La Renaissance opened as a full service restaurant in Pueblo. Brothers Bob and Jim Fredregill started the restaurant as a small family business, and has grown to a staff of thirty-five. A well-known dining destination in Pueblo, La Renaissance has recently received honors for the brothers' business practices. The Colorado Food Service Hall of Fame recently inducted both Bob and Jim Fredregill, and the Greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce recognized La Renaissance as their Small Business of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize La Renaissance for continued excellence in business and for their commitment to the Pueblo community. Establishing the restaurant as part of the community's foundation captures the essence of small business. I congratulate La Renaissance on many years of success and wish them many more in the years to come.

A TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY JOSEPH

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Anthony Joseph in recognition of his entrepreneurial success in the marketing and communications field.

As a product of New York City public school system, Anthony parlayed his academic achievement and his experience as an All-City championship football player into a walk-on position on the Boston University squad. Anthony promoted campus parties and events to subsidize his tuition. After graduation, he quickly turned a temp job in The New York Times' finance department into a staff position in the paper's marketing department.

With just one experience as an employee with the New York Times, Anthony combined his knowledge of urban landscape with his marketing expertise to incorporate the fastest rising marketing/communication company in the urban field. Anthony laid the foundation for his urban success by moonlighting with Vital Marketing Group VMG while still at the Times. Through contacts at a major apparel and an advertising agency, Anthony was able to participate in business meetings where he was