

**RESOLUTION NO. 33 OF 2024**

**A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING EDDIE EUGENE HUGHES, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING WITH RESPECT THERETO.**

**BY: COUNCILMAN GARY BROOKS**

**WHEREAS**, Eddie Eugene Hughes was born May 9, 1934 in Grand Cane Louisiana. At the age of 8, Eddie became the foster child of Wilmer (Toddy) Wallette & Mavice Collie Wallette, who were part owners of the famous Freeman & Harris Cafe'; and

**WHEREAS**, Eddie learned the family business from working at Freeman & Harris. It was then he discovered his passion for cooking. At the age of 17, he created the infamous Stuffed Shrimp that is now known all over the world; and

**WHEREAS**, after graduating from high school, Eddie attended Grambling State University. While in college, he was drafted into the United States Army where he was a culinary arts instructor. After active duty, he returned to Freeman & Harris as Head Chef and perfected his Stuffed Shrimp and Tartar Sauce recipes; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1960, Eddie married his high school sweetheart, Lois Bryant Hughes and later had three (3) children. In 1961 Eddie broke the color barrier and became the first African American chef to work at the Holiday Inn, while working full time at Freeman & Harris Café; and in 1963, he became the first black chef to work for the Shreveport Country Club, stating that he always had to enter through the back door; and

**WHEREAS**, after working for Freeman & Harris for thirty-two (32) years, he decided to open his own business. Eddie, his wife and children-built Eddie's Restaurant and opened it in July of 1978, on the corner of Hollywood Avenue and Union Street; and

**WHEREAS**, Eddie's products can be found in all the Brookshires Grocery Stores, Super1 Foods, Piggly Wiggly and Shopper Value Grocery Stores. Eddies' delicious Original Stuffed Shrimp & Louisiana Tartar Sauce is shipped from Coast to Coast; and

**WHEREAS**, to this date Eddie's Restaurant has never changed ownership, location or even the phone number in 45 years, and is the oldest continuously operated African American Family-owned restaurant in Northwest Louisiana.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council for the City of Shreveport, in due, legal and regular session convened, that the Shreveport City Council recognize and honor the life and legacy of Eddie Eugene Hughes.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that if any provision of this resolution or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items, or applications and to this end the provisions of this resolution are hereby declared severable.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:**

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**City Attorney's Office**