

The Uptown Renaissance Restaurant, which opened its doors in 2004, is quickly gaining recognition for its blend of authentic soul food, savory steaks, and hearty salads. Serving food that one would easily find at popular House-Rent Parties—where hosts would welcome guests into their homes in exchange for financial contributions that would be used to pay rent—the Uptown Renaissance Restaurant is contributing to the revitalization of Harlem in what most people are calling the New Harlem Renaissance.

It is important to remember the past, especially as we continue to shape our future. I encourage everyone to visit the Uptown Renaissance Restaurant. Tell them I sent you.

[From the *CaribNews*, Apr. 3, 2007]

HARLEM'S UPTOWN RENAISSANCE EXPERIENCE
(By Robert Rodney)

The Uptown Renaissance restaurant opened its door in April of 2004, as "the Ultimate Blend of Steaks, Soul Food and Salads". The restaurant boasts a delectably comprehensive menu from breakfast through dinner, where hearty and tasty servings are the order of the days and nights with customers coming back for more. Owners and operators of the Uptown Renaissance restaurant, the husband and wife team of Rene and Claudia Calliste pride themselves on an all-Halal meat service, a pork free environment complimented by healthful whole wheat breads as stable or accompaniments to respective dishes. From Monday through Thursday, the doors of Uptown Renaissance are open from 7 a.m. to Midnight, on Friday and Saturday, they are open around the clock. The establishment astutely recognized the importance of their community, and therefore remained sensitive to its needs by ensuring that the clientele from the surrounding community continue to feel welcome while simultaneously catering to consumers from all areas.

The other day I had the pleasure of visiting the Uptown Renaissance restaurant to dine and experience one of their specialties, the Barbecue Fish. Now, let me tell you this, I am a Jamaican and a lover of fish and I have consumed fish that have been prepared in many different ways; escovitch, fried, roasted, jerked, you name it I have had it, but never barbecued.

So I'll admit that I was a little skeptical about having barbecue fish but I was pleasantly surprised by the presentation, the generous servings and most of all the taste. This meal was comprised of well seasoned fried breaded whiting covered with a nice, not too heavy barbecue sauce served with generous portions of collard greens, sweet yams, macaroni and cheese with corn bread on the side. I totally enjoyed this meal and now had discovered a new way of having my favorite fish thanks to Uptown Renaissance. I would definitely recommend this dish to all fish lovers.

I also enjoyed the ambiance of the place, I found it to be very relaxing with an intimate tone. The service I must say was very pleasant and professional and the prices for the portions that you are served cannot be beat.

I would encourage every one to go to the Uptown Renaissance and experience a new trend in dining. Rene, Claudia, Eleanor and crew are always ready to welcome and give you the royal treatment.

The Uptown Renaissance Restaurant is located at 108 West 116th Street, in Harlem, New York.

HONORING DR. CHARLES DARLAND

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 1, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Charles Darland, an exemplary individual and friend from my congressional district, on the occasion of his 20-year anniversary as pastor of the Immanuel Baptist Church in Elizabethtown, Kentucky.

Raised in West Palm Beach, Florida, Dr. Darland first came to Kentucky in the mid 1970's to complete a Masters Degree of Divinity at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. He later earned a Doctorate in Philosophy from the same institution. Dr. Darland's Christian mission first brought him to Grace Baptist Church in Independence, Kentucky. In 1987, he was called to the Immanuel Baptist Church in Elizabethtown.

Dr. Darland's wife, Suzanne, continues to play an important role in his ministry, sharing his passion for the Lord and dedication to his congregation. The couple has also been blessed with three fine sons: Jesse, Daniel, and Joel.

It is my great privilege to honor Dr. Charles Darland today before the entire U.S. House of Representatives for his dedicated service to the spiritual needs of members of the Baptist faith and the community at large. He is an outstanding citizen worthy of our collective honor and appreciation.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE
HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF
THE HONORABLE JUANITA
MILLENDER-MCDONALD, MEMBER
OF CONGRESS FROM THE STATE
OF CALIFORNIA

SPEECH OF

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 23, 2007

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, on Sunday April 22, 2007, my dear friend and colleague Congresswoman JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD was called home.

JUANITA was a great woman who worked passionately for justice and cared deeply for mankind. She was a phenomenal Congresswoman, a loving wife, mother and grandmother and a dutiful friend.

She made time for her constituents—and didn't just listen, but heard them, and spoke for them.

Madam Speaker, JUANITA began her tenure in Congress in 1996. She represented California's 37th Congressional District and was a proud leader in the Congressional Black Cau-

cus where she championed the caucus' disparities agenda to advance economic development, expand access and affordability for health care, truly "leave no child behind" in our education policy and the list goes on.

She was a true legislator. For example, she authored several pieces of legislation focusing on health care, specifically woman's heart health. Legislation such as H.R. 51, a bill to support National Wear Red Day, and H.R. 52 the American Heart Month which called on women to take action and prevent heart disease were just a few examples of her legislative priorities.

JUANITA was a trailblazer, becoming the first African American woman to chair the House Administration Committee for the 110th Congress. She was known as the Mayor of Capitol Hill; overseeing the operational and safety needs of the Capitol compound.

She was truly a jewel and a joy to have known. In closing, I'm reminded of a passage from Proverbs 31:10–31 KJV, verse 10 which reads:

"Who can find a virtuous woman? . . . for her price is far above rubies."

Congresswoman MILLENDER-MCDONALD was a great woman, epitomizing humanity, humility and virtue. She will truly be missed.

SMALL BUSINESS LENDING
IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1332) to improve the access to capital programs of the Small Business Administration and for other purposes:

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Chairman, I rise in reluctant opposition to the Small Business Lending Improvements Act of 2007. I strongly support the changes made in this legislation to the Certified Development Company Economic Development or 504 loan program. However, I have grave concerns regarding many of the changes made in this legislation to the other mainstay of the SBA's access to credit programs: the 7(a) guaranteed lending program.

Specifically, Section 101 sets the stage to eventually reinstate the federal loan subsidy for the 7(a) program later this year. This provision requires the Small Business Administration (SBA) to recalculate the subsidy rate each fiscal quarter so that if an appropriation is provided for sometime during the fiscal year, fees can be reduced for small business borrowers and lenders. While I believe this provision violates the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 because it requires the re-opening of the assumptions that comprise the credit subsidy model just for the SBA's 7(a) program as contained in the President's annual budget request, I am more concerned about its potential detrimental effects upon our Nation's small businesses. While I am all for lowering fees, it has to be done in a fiscally-responsible manner, particularly during these tight budgetary times. In short, Section 101 is unnecessary and will set the 7(a) program back on an unstable course, thus reducing its availability and