

Its very walls pronounce its fame. The central element of the decor, which Mrs. Woods describes as "comfortable, decent and clean," are photographs of many notable visitors.

The former Republican Vice-Presidential candidate Jack Kemp, Labor Secretary Alexis Herman, the media mogul Quincy Jones and the actor Denzel Washington in the role of just another diner are among scores of those whose pictures are on display in the three cobbled-together rooms that make up Sylvia's.

Winnie Mandela dined there three times. Diana Ross asked for seconds of Sylvia's Sassy Rice. Muhammad Ali used to roam along the steam tables fetching his own biscuits. Spike Lee filmed a scene of his 1991 film, "Jungle Fever" in a corner of the restaurant now memorialized with a huge autographed poster for the movie.

It has long been a favorite haunt for up-town's power elite. Mr. Sutton remembered how over the years he held meetings at Sylvia's with figures like Robert F. Kennedy and Jesse Jackson.

But whenever one of her customers asks Mrs. Woods who was the most famous star to dine there, she responds with a rhetorical question and then answers it.

"Who's the most famous star to come into the restaurant?" she asks warmly. "You."

Mrs. Woods says the success of their \$3 million-a-year restaurant is due as much to its unshakable sense of Southern hospitality as to the food itself.

"You got to make people feel like they're at home," Mrs. Woods said. "You got to make people feel like you appreciate them. That love and affection and caring will carry you where money can never carry."

If she is not going over menus and day-to-day details in her closet of an office—"Sylvia's Room" is burned into the door—she is minding the steam tables or "talking up customers" in a voice from her South Carolina roots.

"I walks the floor," Mrs. Woods explained. "If a person is not eating the food, I want to know why. 'Well, I'm not hungry,' I say, uh-uh, you have to bring it better than that. You wouldn't come in here, if you wasn't hungry."

Her accessibility, says Anthony Bowman, who operates a Harlem-based tour company, has helped make her "an icon."

"Most people who have gone there have at least once seen Sylvia," Mr. Bowman said. "She gives the place an identifiable face."

The couple say they are determined to maintain the personal touch in their new branches.

So, soft-spoken Herbert Woods, with his broad, gentle face, slides behind the steering wheel of their 1988 Rolls-Royce Silver Spur and drives with his wife 14 hours—nonstop—from their home in Mount Vernon, N.Y., to look in at the Atlanta restaurant, which is owned by their daughter Bedelia Woods, 49.

"We prefer to drive," Mrs. Woods said.

"I don't mind flying, but I prefer not for both of us to fly together," Mr. Woods noted. "Just in case."

Mrs. Woods disagreed, "If we go, we go together."

Their visit doesn't mean they don't have confidence in their daughter or their other three children and the five grandchildren who work in the family business. But Mom and Dad's "guidance" is always helpful, they note.

None of Mrs. Woods's success surprises Vicky Johnson, the Belgian war bride of Andrew Johnson the black entrepreneur who gave Mrs. Woods her first job in Harlem, as a waitress in his Harlem luncheonette.

"She was a hard worker," Mrs. Johnson, 69, recalled by telephone from her home in

Summit, N.Y. "I worked side by side with her. She wanted to get somewhere. Believe you me, nobody gave her nothing. She earned it."

Mrs. Woods was reared by her mother, Julia Pressley, on their 35-acre farm in Hemingway, S.C., a patchwork of small farms with more wagons than cars when she was growing up.

Her father died two days before she was born, Mrs. Woods said, a victim of gassing during World War I. "I've never seen his face, not even a photo."

While picking beans for extra money for the family, she said, she met Herbert Woods. His mother had died, and he was being raised by his step-father in Hemingway. She was 11, and he was 12. By their early teens, both recalled, they were falling in love.

Their affection was so strong, Mr. Woods said, that when she went to New York with her mother, who worked as a domestic to buy more farmland back home, he joined the Navy. He thought that as a sailor he might sail to Brooklyn and see his sweetheart, he said.

"As close as I got was Norfolk, Va.," Mr. Woods said with a soundless chuckle. He soon found himself in the middle of the Pacific Ocean and World War II as a cook on light cruisers and transports. "When I was in the Navy, that's all you could be," he said of the era's segregated armed forces.

Eventually, they married and moved to Harlem. He drove a cab; she worked for the Johnsons.

In 1961, Mr. Johnson, who owned three restaurants, turned to Sylvia Woods when his plans to build an upstate resort for blacks overextended him financially.

"He wanted me to buy the restaurant from him to raise some money," Mrs. Woods recalled. "I said: 'Johnson, are you crazy? You know I don't have any money.'"

But the mortgage from Mrs. Woods' mother provided the down payment on the \$20,000 price for the restaurant, the start of an empire now worth \$20 million. In 1988, Mrs. Woods bought the upstate resort to prevent Mrs. Johnson, by then a widow and in financial trouble, from losing it on the auction block.

Looking back to the early days, Mrs. Woods recalled, "It was really a struggle." But her success, she assured a visitor, was part of "God's plan." She paused and folded her hands.

"God is so good to me that I truly, truly know that He would not bring me this far and leave me alone," she said. "No."

#### THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF SPUTNIK

**HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 1, 1997*

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, October 4 marks the 40th anniversary of one of the most significant milestones in the history of humanity's exploration of space. I of course am speaking of the launching of the world's first artificial satellite—Sputnik—by the Soviet Union on October 4, 1957.

At the time, the successful orbiting of Earth's "second moon" had wide-ranging repercussions. It was an enormous blow to the American national psyche, and it led to an agonizing reappraisal of our educational system, a questioning of our assumed technological superiority in the world, and alarm over the

national security implications of what the Soviet Union had accomplished. Thus, October 4, 1957 marked not only the birth of the space age, but also the birth of the space race between America and the Soviet Union—a race that was simply one more symbol of the cold war rivalry of the two superpowers.

Yet, from the vantage point of 40 years later, that rivalry is not the main legacy of Sputnik. Instead, its legacy is embodied in the countless ways in which humanity's exploration and utilization of space have enriched all of us and fundamentally transformed our lives.

We take for granted so much of what the space program has accomplished, that it is important to remember what the last four decades of space activities have brought us. These include, but are by no means limited to the following: Satellite communications, which has brought the rest of the world as close to us as our telephone receiver and our television set; meteorological satellites, which have revolutionized weather forecasting and storm warnings; space-based remote sensing, which has promoted our national security, helped us to understand and manage our environment and our resources, as well as helping us to monitor natural hazards; and satellite-based navigation, which has spawned numerous terrestrial applications and products, and which offers the promised of improved air traffic management. In addition, space research has left a wealth of technologies in its wake that have provided new materials, medical diagnostic and monitoring devices, improved power systems—the list goes on and on—to benefit our citizens. It is no exaggeration to say the space has spawned industries and jobs that have become a significant part of our Nation's economy.

Beyond the material benefits, our first 40 years in space have led to dramatic increases in our understanding of planet Earth, of the Sun and our solar system, and of the universe beyond. Space research has led to numerous rewritings of the science textbooks with no end in sight. Anyone who has marveled at the discoveries made by the Hubble space telescope or the Galileo spacecraft cannot doubt the truth of that statement.

And of course 40 years of accomplishments in space have had an enormous inspirational value—whether through seeing images of human footsteps on the Moon, images of Earth as a beautiful blue globe, or images of an overachieving little robotic rover on the surface of the Mars. The value of such inspiration should not be underestimated.

Finally, it should be noted that four decades after the event that triggered the space race, we have come full circle and are approaching space exploration as an endeavor to be conducted through international cooperation rather than competition. Few may remember that Sputnik was launched as a component of the International Geophysical Year [IGY], an early experiment in international scientific cooperation. Now, 40 years later, international cooperation is becoming the norm for both human space flight and space science research.

Forty years ago, human space flight was just a goal—and a goal framed in terms of the superpower rivalry. Today, on the other hand, we are attempting nothing less than the peaceful merger of the human space flight programs of Russia and the United States, as

well as cooperation with a dozen nations on the development of a truly international space station. When we read reports of the difficulties that United States-Russian cooperation in space is encountering, it is well worth remembering how far we have come from the days of a dangerous rivalry, and how much we are trying to accomplish together. Space is not the province of a single nation—it is the province of all humanity.

In sum, we have accomplished much in the 40 years since that tiny metallic globe circled the Earth for the first time. We cannot predict with any great confidence what the next 40 years will bring. However, if the past is any guide, we can look forward to our future in space with anticipation, hope, and a sense of wonder.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP VICTOR T. CURRY, PASTOR OF NEW BIRTH BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. CARRIE P. MEEK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 1, 1997*

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is truly a distinct honor and privilege to pay tribute to one of Miami's great leaders, Bishop Victor T. Curry. I want to echo the same sentiments of joy and gratitude that the 10,000 members of the New Birth Baptist Church in Miami lifted up to Almighty God this past weekend to celebrate his sixth pastoral anniversary.

Bishop Curry, 37 years old, truly represents the best and the noblest of our community. As bishop, senior pastor, and teacher of New Birth Baptist Church, he is remarkably leading his congregation in the ways of God and has tirelessly worked to enlighten our community on the agenda of spiritual wisdom and good government based on our God-given conscience and responsibility.

It is indeed fitting for those of us who subscribe to the Judeo-Christian faith to pause and reflect on the important role that Bishop Curry plays in the day-to-day affairs of our community. I want to acknowledge the tremendous work he is doing in constantly guiding not only the members of New Birth Baptist Church, but the entire community. He has truly exemplified the example of Christ as the Good Shepherd, and has led his flock of believers, sharing with them the words of God's wisdom and the good news emanating from the Gospel.

His motto, "From Vision to Victory," has impacted the lives of countless people, propelling him into one of our Nation's charismatic televangelists par excellence. Along with many others in our community, I am indeed a fortunate beneficiary of Bishop Curry's televised teachings and radio ministry through the church-owned Radio WBBM-1490 AM, especially in his advocacy to demonstrate both by way of word and example our unconditional love for and commitment to the children and the elderly, the poor, the disenfranchised, and the least fortunate among us. I have learned from him the very centrality of God in our daily lives, conscious of the fact that the mandate of our faith must characterize our attitudes toward those who could least fend for themselves.

In its laudatory recognition the Miami Times aptly described him as "a forceful, courageous, and visionary leader not only of the religious community but also of our wider society \* \* \* with the recognition that our churches are part of a larger network of institutions that are the pillars of our community." Bishop Curry is fully living up to his vocation as a genuine pastor. His standards for learning, caring, and achieving, especially among the youth has won for him the accolades of our ecumenical community. Public and private agencies have oftentimes cited him for his untiring consecration to the truth and his uncompromising stance on justice and equal opportunity for all.

Moreover, his crusades in teaching many a wayward inner-city youth has become legendary. He has gained the utmost confidence of countless parents and teachers who see in him a no-nonsense motivator. They are wont to entrust him with the future of their children, fully cognizant and genuinely confident that they would learn from him the tenets of scholarship and the pursuit of scholastic excellence under a conscientious commitment and rigorous discipline.

Our community is deeply touched and comforted by his undaunted leadership, compassion, and personal warmth. As head of one of the fastest growing churches in Florida, Bishop Curry preaches and lives by the adage that under the grace of God's Providence our common quest for personal integrity and professional achievement is not beyond the reach of those who are willing to dare the impossible. As a man of God and as an indomitable leader in our community, he has rightfully earned our deepest respect and genuine admiration.

This is the great legacy Bishop Victor T. Curry is unselfishly sharing with all of us. I am greatly privileged indeed to have his friendship and his confidence, and I am grateful that he continues to teach us to live by his noble ethic of always loving God and serving our fellowmen.

SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAMS RE-AUTHORIZATION AND AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 2, 1997*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2261, the Small Business Programs authorization. H.R. 2261 incorporates the provisions of H.R. 2429 which reauthorizes the Small Business Technology Transfer Program as reported by the Science Committee.

First, I want to say it has been a pleasure working with the Small Business Committee in this legislation.

During the Technology Subcommittee's hearing on the STTR program we heard strong bipartisan support for this small business, university, government partnership.

This program has been very successful at linking the research capabilities of universities and national laboratories, with the business sense and drive of our Nation's small business community.

A number of amendments have been drafted to the original legislation and I would like

to call the attention of my colleagues to one amendment in particular.

From reviewing the STTR awards made during the past 3 years, I became concerned that the majority of awards are made to only a few States.

Therefore, I suggested a provision that would require SBA to develop an outreach program to under represented States. Under represented States are defined as those which receive less than 20 awards during the prior 2 year period. During fiscal years 1995-96 only 8 states received more than 20 awards.

During the Technology Subcommittee's hearing it seemed clear that other States have fully qualified small businesses, universities, and nonprofit labs to enable them to compete successfully in the STTR program. However, in many States the program is not well-known nor does the business community know how to apply to the program. The goal of these provisions are to expand participation in the STTR program.

I want to thank Chairman SENSENBRENNER and Ranking Member BROWN of the Science Committee and Chairman TALENT and Ranking Member LAFALCE for including these specific provisions in H.R. 2261.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2261.

HONORING CALVARY COMMUNITY CHURCH FOR ITS 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

**HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 2, 1997*

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me today in honoring the Calvary Community Church on its 50th year of unselfish dedication to the community.

For 50 years, Calvary Community Church has provided a comfortable space for worship and social gathering for residents of Norwalk, Downey, Whittier, and other neighboring cities. Founded in October 1946, the church was officially established in April 1947, when Rev. Dale E. Hundsdoerfer was named its first pastor.

In 1949, Calvary Community Church purchased property on the corner of Pioneer and Mapledale, in the city of Downey; holding services in a tent while constructing its permanent building. On April 4, 1950, the church held its first service in its new chapel. A larger sanctuary was built in 1956 to facilitate the growing congregation.

Calvary Community Church has emerged as a revolutionary church providing service for the hearing impaired, initiating food and clothing drives for the needy, holding weekly services at the California Youth Authority facilities in Norwalk, bringing SHARE, a low-cost food program, to Los Angeles County, and for the past 10 years cosponsoring summer camps for abused and neglected children. In addition, the church currently provides support for 15 missionaries and provides weekly programs for boys (Royal Rangers), girls (Missionettes), teenagers, and adults of all backgrounds.

I would also like to recognize and thank the pastors for their selfless devotion to Calvary Community Church: Rev. Dale E. Hundsdoerfer 1947-62, Rev. A.J. Sovern 1963-77, Rev. Dennis Millat 1977-87, and