

Restaurant's name promises soul food that's heart-healthy

Architect Kevin Kelley of Shook Design Group believes a restaurant name ought to tell a story. He really hit the jackpot this time.

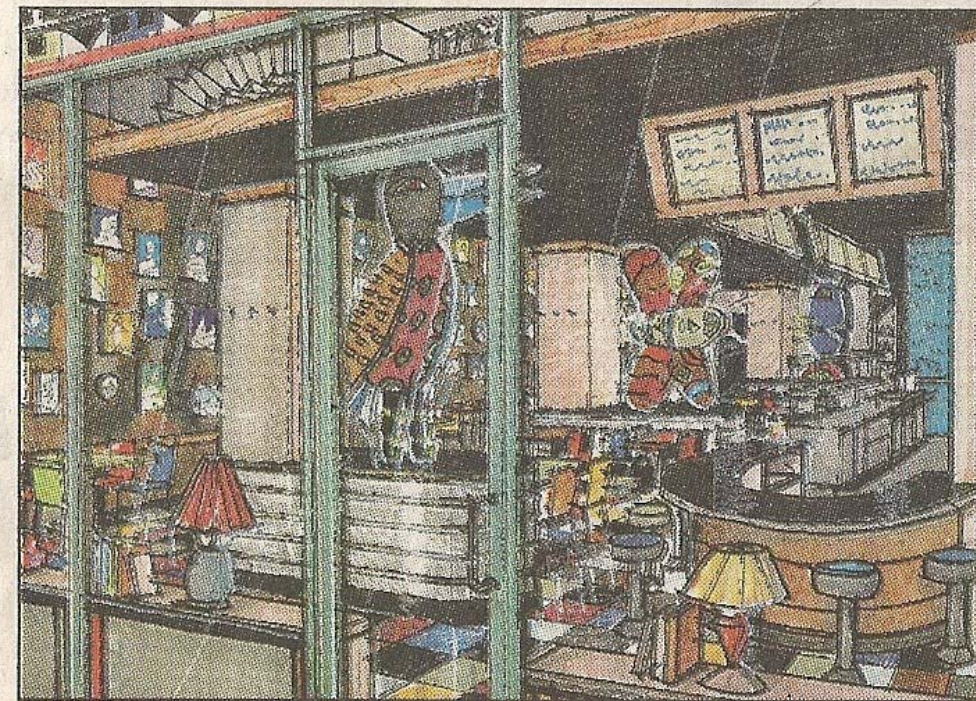
Doug Smith

Mert's Heart and Soul — due to open by late April in the Charlotte International Trade Center at 200 N. College St. — tells two stories.



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First, it's the evolution of husband-and-wife team James and Renee Bazzelle's former Southern cuisine restaurant into a mainstream ethnic establishment, serving soul food prepared mainly with heart-healthy



Courtesy of Shook Design Group

This is an artist's rendering of Mert's Heart and Soul restaurant, due to open by late April.

recipes.

But that's the obvious story.

Mert was a real person —

Myrtle Lockhart — a regular customer at the Bazzelles'

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