

Restaurant Activity Report—Lead Report

Current Real Estate Transactions, Leases Signed, Ownership Changes, and Business Brokerage Activity.



For restaurant contact information, please call Restaurant Activity Report at (320) 300-4488.

East of Texas

318 Blackwell Street
Durham, NC 27701
www.east-of-texas-wsnc.com

Claire Calvin
Owner
Est. Opening Date: 8/15/2026
Publication Date: 7/14/2026

Location Type: Regional
Lead Type: New Opening
Average Check: \$20 to \$50
Menu Type: American

Summary: UPDATE!! We previously reported that East of Texas was planning to open a new foodservice operation in Durham, North Carolina. We now know the restaurant will be located at 318 Blackwell St Suite 100, Durham, North Carolina 27701, with an opening planned for August 2026. The Winston-Salem-based restaurant will occupy a nearly 5,600 sqft space at American Tobacco Campus and will feature its signature Tex-Mex BBQ, house-smoked meats, tacos, margaritas, and outdoor dining experience. The Durham location will also include a private event space, garage doors opening to outdoor seating near the Lucky Strike water tower, and a market offering grab-and-go meals and retail items.

The Gables

1217 Wake Forest Rd
Raleigh, NC 27604
www.thegablesraleigh.com

Craig Spitzer
Founder and CEO - Early Night Owl Hospitality
Est. Opening Date: 9/15/2026
Publication Date: 7/14/2026

Location Type: Independent
Lead Type: New Opening
Average Check: \$20 to \$50
Menu Type: Classic/Varied

Summary: Early Bird Night Owl Hospitality Group is preparing to open The Gables at 1217 Wake Forest Rd, Raleigh, North Carolina. The historic 1928 motor lodge is being restored into an 18-room boutique hotel featuring overnight accommodations, Alcove, a neighborhood bar, and a full-service dining concept. The Gables is operated by Early Bird Night Owl Hospitality Group, the team behind The Durham and The Mayton boutique hotels, and is now accepting reservations for stays beginning September 15, 2026.

Steak and Sushi House

1756 Catawba Valley Blvd SE
Hickory, NC 28602

Chantara Lor
Owner
Est. Opening Date: 8/16/2026
Publication Date: 7/14/2026

Location Type: Independent
Lead Type: New Opening
Average Check: \$50 and up
Menu Type: Steak/Seafood

Summary: Chantara Lor is opening Steak and Sushi House soon at 1756 Catawba Valley Blvd. SE, Hickory, North Carolina 28602. The 4,690 sqft restaurant will serve steak and sushi and is planned for renovation before opening.

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Crescent Grounds Coffee

215 Providence Rd
Charlotte, NC 28207

Tim Johnson

Co-Owners

Est. Opening Date: 1/15/2027

Publication Date: 7/14/2026

Location Type: Independent

Lead Type: New Opening

Average Check: \$20 to \$50

Menu Type:

Bakeries/Coffee/Snacks

Summary: Tim and Susan Johnson are opening Crescent Grounds Coffee as early as next year at 215 Providence Rd., Charlotte, North Carolina 28207. The coffee shop will serve dessert-inspired espresso drinks, cold foam beverages, nitro cold brew, locally roasted coffee, pastries, and eventually sandwiches, with indoor seating and a wraparound porch overlooking Colonial Park.

South Block

Main at North Hills
Raleigh, NC 27609
www.southblock.com

Amir Mostafavi

Founder/CEO

Est. Opening Date: 2/1/2027

Publication Date: 7/14/2026

Location Type: Regional

Lead Type: New Opening

Average Check: \$20 and under

Menu Type:

Sandwiches/Soups/Salads/Deli

Summary: South Block is preparing to open its first Triangle location at North Hills in Raleigh, North Carolina, in early 2027. The new restaurant will be located next to bartaco in the shopping center's main district and will offer the brand's signature açai bowls, smoothies, juices, and healthy grab-and-go menu.

1122 Coffee Company

23 Market St SW
Concord, NC 28025

Kayla McBride

Co-Owners

Est. Opening Date: 9/24/2026

Publication Date: 7/14/2026

Location Type: Independent

Lead Type: New Opening

Average Check: \$20 and under

Menu Type:

Bakeries/Coffee/Snacks

Summary: Kayla McBride and Karlee McBride-Webber are opening 1122 Coffee Company by September at 23 Market St. SW, Concord, North Carolina 28025. The neighborhood coffee shop will serve specialty coffee and tea beverages, including vanilla chai lattes and iced blueberry matcha, in a community-focused space.

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Lloyd's Full Service

107 E Chatham St
Cary, NC 27511
www.lloydsfullservice.com

Craig Spitzer
Founder and CEO
Est. Opening Date: 8/15/2026
Publication Date: 7/9/2026

Location Type: Independent
Lead Type: New Opening
Average Check: \$20 to \$50
Menu Type: Bar & Grill/Pub

Summary: Lloyd's Full Service, a new restaurant from Early Bird Night Owl (the hospitality group behind The Durham and The Mayton hotels), is scheduled to open in August 2026 at 107 E. Chatham St., Cary, North Carolina 27511. Housed in a restored 1950s service station originally opened by K.M. Lloyd in 1951, the restaurant preserves much of the building's historic façade while adding a covered three-season patio, an outdoor bar housed in a restored 1940s delivery van, and a stage for live music. The opening dinner menu will feature approachable dishes such as salt and vinegar fish, linguine with clams, seasonal salads, and breakfast-for-dinner, with lunch service and weekend brunch expected to launch this fall 2026.

Antioch Pizza Shop

3521 Matthews-Mint Hill Rd
Matthews, NC 28105
www.antiochpizzashop.com

Arthur Wicklein
Founder
Est. Opening Date: 8/30/2026
Publication Date: 7/9/2026

Location Type: Regional
Lead Type: New Opening
Average Check: \$20 and under
Menu Type: Pizza/Italian

Summary: Antioch Pizza Shop is opening in late summer 2026 at 3521 Matthews-Mint Hill Rd, Matthews, North Carolina 28105. The restaurant will serve its signature stuffed pizza, Chicago-style pizzas, and other Italian favorites, marking the brand's expansion into North Carolina.

SMASH'N'DAWGZ

Various Locations
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

Derrick Evans
Owner
Est. Opening Date: 10/1/2026
Publication Date: 7/9/2026

Location Type: Independent
Lead Type: New Opening
Average Check: \$20 and under
Menu Type: Food Truck

Summary: SMASH'N'DAWGZ, a locally owned food truck, is opening in October 2026 and will serve Winston-Salem, Kernersville, Rural Hall, King, Pilot Mountain, Mount Airy, and surrounding areas in North Carolina. The mobile eatery will offer made-to-order smash burgers, hot dogs, and other affordable comfort food with a permanent menu, while also providing pre-orders and catering for businesses, apartment communities, schools, churches, weddings, and community events.

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Randy's Pizza

1120 Parkside Main St
Cary, NC 27519
www.randys-pizza.com

Randy Smith

Owner

Est. Opening Date: 8/20/2026

Publication Date: 7/9/2026

Location Type: Regional

Lead Type: New Opening

Average Check: \$20 and under

Menu Type: Pizza/Italian

Summary: Randy's Pizza is expanding with a new location at 1120 Parkside Main St., Cary, North Carolina 27519. The locally owned Triangle pizzeria recently announced that signage has been installed and interior demolition is underway, with the restaurant coming soon. The new location will serve Randy's signature New York-style pizza, along with pasta, calzones, stromboli, wings, salads, subs, and desserts. Randy's Pizza currently operates multiple locations throughout the Triangle and continues to expand its footprint across the region.

Hotel Indigo

320 Hillsborough St
Raleigh, NC 27603
www.ihg.com

Erika Limmer

Regional Director (USA)

Est. Opening Date: 10/15/2026

Publication Date: 7/9/2026

Location Type: Regional

Lead Type: New Opening

Average Check: \$20 to \$50

Menu Type: Classic/Varied

Summary: Hotel Indigo Raleigh Downtown, an upscale boutique hotel under IHG Hotels & Resorts, is scheduled to open in October 2026 at 320 Hillsborough St., Raleigh, North Carolina 27603, replacing the former Holiday Inn Raleigh Downtown following a more than \$30 million renovation by Tidal Real Estate Partners. The reimagined 204-room hotel will feature a ground-floor cafe, meeting and event spaces, and the city's highest hospitality venue, a top-floor cocktail lounge and event space.

El Jefe Kitchen & Cantina

1074 N Main St
Walnut Cove, NC 27052

Est. Opening Date: 7/29/2026

Publication Date: 7/9/2026

Location Type: Independent

Lead Type: New Opening

Average Check: \$20 and under

Menu Type: Mexican

Summary: El Jefe Kitchen & Cantina, a locally owned family restaurant, is opening in late July at 1074 N Main St, Walnut Cove, North Carolina 27052. The restaurant will serve traditional Mexican cuisine with a modern twist in a welcoming, family-friendly atmosphere.
