

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.

La La Land Kind Cafe

1930 Camden Rd
Charlotte, NC 28203
www.lalalandcafe.com

François Reihani
Founder
Est. Opening Date: 12/31/2026
Publication Date: 10/20/2026

Location Type: Regional
Lead Type: Update
Average Check: \$20 and under
Menu Type:
Bakeries/Coffee/Snacks

Summary: UPDATE!! We previously reported that La La Land Kind Cafe would open sometime in May 2026. We now know that the cafe plans to open in late 2026 or early 2027 at 1930 Camden Rd, Charlotte, North Carolina 28203. Founded by François Reihani, the cafe will replace Bitty & Beau's Coffee in South End and serve specialty coffee, flavored lattes, matcha drinks, and iced refreshments. The Texas-based company also provides paid employment and support to young people transitioning out of foster care.

Torii Hibachi Express

4961 Long Beach Road SE
Southport, NC 28461

Lukas Llamas
Owner/Co-Founder (Lazo Hospitality Group)
Est. Opening Date: 11/5/2026
Publication Date: 10/20/2026

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

Summary: Lazo Hospitality Group, co-founded by Lukas Llamas, is preparing to open Torii Hibachi Express at 4961 Long Beach Rd. SE in Southport, North Carolina 28461. The restaurant will replace the group's former San Felipe location in Live Oak Village Shopping Center beside Papa John's. Chef Eloy Lopez will lead the fast-casual Japanese concept, serving hibachi and teriyaki dishes, bento boxes, bowls, noodles, and Asian-inspired specialties for lunch, dinner and takeout. The group is targeting late October or early November 2026. Planned hours are Tuesday through Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Rooster's

9239 Valley Blvd
Blowing Rock, NC 28605
www.roosterskitchen.com

Jim Noble
Founder
Est. Opening Date: 1/15/2027
Publication Date: 10/20/2026

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

Summary: Rooster's Wood-Fired Kitchen, part of Jim Noble's Noble Food & Pursuits, plans to open a new location in 2027 inside the redeveloped Green Park Inn at 9239 Valley Blvd, Blowing Rock, North Carolina 28605. The restaurant will serve wood-fired dishes combining seasonal Southern ingredients with European culinary techniques. The historic property is being transformed into a 40-room luxury hotel with event spaces, a private wine cellar, a museum, and eight guest cottages.

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India Mahal

1051 S. College Rd.
Wilmington, NC 28403
www.indiamahalrestaurant.com

Sunny Singh
Owner
Est. Opening Date: 12/1/2026
Publication Date: 10/20/2026

Location Type: Independent
Lead Type: Relocation
Average Check: \$20 and under
Menu Type: Asian

Summary: Owner Sunny Singh is preparing to relocate India Mahal to 1051 S. College Rd., Wilmington, North Carolina 28403, taking over the Little Asia Bistro space following its scheduled October 18 closure. The move follows an August 2026 fire that closed India Mahal's Havelock restaurant. The owner plans to update the dining area and hopes to open in early November 2026. The Indian restaurant is expected to operate six days a week, offering a lunch buffet, a Sunday mimosa buffet, and a weekly vegan buffet.

The Yard

915 Brookstown Ave
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

Tony Stevens
Owner
Est. Opening Date: 11/16/2026
Publication Date: 10/20/2026

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

Summary: The Yard, owned by Tony Stevens, plans to open in fall 2026 at 915 Brookstown Ave, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101. The new bar and entertainment venue will replace Dolly's Honky Tonk, which previously operated as Whiskey Dawgs under the same ownership. Stevens also owns Bamboo Lounge, a tiki bar serving tropical cocktails at 631 N Trade St, and Vintage Sofa Bar in Winston-Salem.

Rook's Neighborhood Pub and Deli

506–508 Castle St.
Wilmington, NC 28401

Joe Sena
Co-Owner
Est. Opening Date: 2/1/2027
Publication Date: 10/20/2026

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

Summary: Owner Ivan “Chip” Moore and partners Noelle Vandermark, Joe Sena, Deanna and Frank Iadicco are preparing to open Rook's Neighborhood Pub and Deli at 506–508 Castle St. in Wilmington, North Carolina. The independent restaurant will replace Coco Pippa and offer hot and cold sandwiches, subs, homemade sides, soups, salads, and desserts, alongside beer, wine and cocktails. Renovations are underway, with an opening targeted by the beginning of 2027. A direct public phone number or email address has not yet been verified.

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Culinary Dropout

15220 Bowl St
Charlotte, NC 28277
www.culinarydropout.com

Russell Owens
COO
Est. Opening Date: 11/4/2026
Publication Date: 10/15/2026

Location Type: Regional
Lead Type: Update
Average Check: \$20 to \$50
Menu Type: Classic/Varied

Summary: UPDATE!! We previously reported that Culinary Dropout, a Fox Restaurant Concepts brand founded by chef and restaurateur Sam Fox, would open its second Charlotte location in spring 2026. We now know that the restaurant will open on November 4, 2026, at 15220 Bowl St, Charlotte, North Carolina 28277. The two-story, 9,986 sqft restaurant will seat nearly 300 guests and feature indoor and rooftop bars, a patio, private dining space, an open kitchen, and live music. The menu will include BBQ pork nachos, pretzels with provolone fondue, sushi, burgers, and 36-hour pork ribs, along with cocktails, mocktails, wine, and local craft beer.

Compa Pizza & Pasta

Latta Park
Durham, NC 27712
www.pomodoroitaliankitchen.info

Carlo and Josephine Finazzo
Owners
Est. Opening Date: 12/10/2026
Publication Date: 10/15/2026

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

Summary: Carlo and Josephine Finazzo, owners of Pomodoro Italian Kitchen, are preparing to open Compa Pizza & Pasta in the Latta Park development at Guess and Latta roads in north Durham, North Carolina. The approximately 2,640 sqft restaurant will specialize in handmade pasta and pizza and is targeting a December 2026 opening. The exact street address and suite number have not yet been announced.

The Flying Biscuit Cafe

6609 Falls of Neuse Rd,
Raleigh, NC 27615
www.flyingbiscuit.com

Brent Fuller
VP, Operations
Est. Opening Date: 2/1/2027
Publication Date: 10/15/2026

Location Type: Franchise
Lead Type: New Opening
Average Check: \$20 and under
Menu Type:
Bakeries/Coffee/Snacks

Summary: Franchise partner Tahir Rafiq is preparing to open The Flying Biscuit Cafe at 6609 Falls of Neuse Rd. in Raleigh, North Carolina 27615, in the Falls Village shopping center. Scheduled for the first quarter of 2027, the cafe will serve Southern-inspired breakfast, brunch and lunch, with indoor dining, patio seating, carryout, delivery, and catering. This will be Rafiq's fourth Triangle location, joining his cafes in Cary, Chapel Hill, and Wake Forest.

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The Jungle Bar

211 N Lindsay St
High Point, NC 27262
www.thejunglebar.com

Mark Penley
Co-Owners
Est. Opening Date: 10/29/2026
Publication Date: 10/15/2026

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

Summary: The Jungle Bar, owned by Mark and Courtney Penley and Kathryn “Kacki” and Chris Harrell through HP Ventures LLC, plans to open by the end of October 2026 at 211 N Lindsay St, High Point, North Carolina 27262. Located inside the 35,000 sqft Smitty & Pearl's dining and entertainment complex, the cocktail bar and restaurant will serve handhelds, flatbreads, salads, seafood, desserts, and exotic cocktails. Guests will also have access to 10 lanes of rollerball bowling, arcade games, private karaoke, live entertainment, and televised sporting events.

Malli — Indian Reimagined

131 Oakview Commons Dr.
Holly Springs, NC 27540
www.mallinc.us

Arunkumar Vijayakumar
Founder
Est. Opening Date: 11/30/2026
Publication Date: 10/15/2026

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

Summary: Founders Arunkumar Vijayakumar, Rajesh Arumugam, and Bharath Pepaala are preparing to open Malli — Indian Reimagined at 131 Oakview Commons Dr., Suite 109, in Holly Springs, North Carolina 27540. The approximately 5,000 sqft independent restaurant will offer contemporary Indian dining, with multiple dining and gathering spaces for everyday meals and celebrations. The owners are targeting fall 2026, although an exact opening date has not yet been announced. Opening updates are available through the restaurant's website and Instagram account.

Fourth and Meeple Board Game

101 W Fourth St
Winston-Salem, NC 27101
www.fourthandmeeple.com

Bradley
Co-Owners
Est. Opening Date: 12/23/2026
Publication Date: 10/15/2026

Location Type: Independent
Lead Type: New Opening
Average Check: \$20 and under
Menu Type:
Bakeries/Coffee/Snacks

Summary: Fourth and Meeple Board Game Cafe, owned by Kelsie and Bradley, plans to open in winter 2027 at 101 W Fourth St, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101. The cafe will offer day passes for unlimited access to more than 300 board games, along with coffee, espresso drinks, local baked goods, beer, wine, and nonalcoholic beverages. Customers will also be able to purchase games from its retail shelves. The owners have hosted pop-up game nights at Joymongers Brewing Co. since December 2024.
