

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 (443) 974-8897.

Mazi

1300 South Blvd
Suite 101-F
Charlotte, NC 28203
www.mazicl.com

Troy Brewer

Owner

Est. Opening Date: Feb. 15, 2025

Publication Date: Jan. 30, 2025

Location Type: Independent

Lead Type: New Opening

Average Check: \$20 to \$50

Menu Type: Other Ethnic

Summary: Mazi, a new Mediterranean restaurant, is set to open this winter at 1300 South Blvd., Suite 101-F, Charlotte, North Carolina 28203. Managed by Built on Hospitality for owners Troy Brewer and Hemant Patel, the 2,500-sqft space will feature a bar with seating for 55 inside and an outdoor area for 30. The menu will highlight small plates inspired by Greek, Israeli, Lebanese, Spanish, Italian, and North African flavors, alongside a curated wine list.

Van Leeuwen Ice Cream

1711 Commonwealth Ave.
Charlotte, NC 28205
www.vanleeuwenicecream.com

Ben Van Leeuwen

Co-Founder

Est. Opening Date: Mar. 4, 2025

Publication Date: Jan. 30, 2025

Location Type: Franchise

Lead Type: New Opening

Average Check: \$20 and Under

Menu Type: Desserts

Summary: Van Leeuwen Ice Cream is planning to open its first North Carolina location at 1711 Commonwealth Ave, Charlotte, North Carolina 28205. The New York-based ice cream brand is known for its unique flavors like dulce de leche brownie, coffee affogato, and lemon poppyseed muffin.

The Waterman Fish Bar

5501 Josh Birmingham Pkwy
Charlotte, NC 28208
www.watermanclt.com

Paul Manley

Co-Founder

Est. Opening Date: Feb. 21, 2025

Publication Date: Jan. 30, 2025

Location Type: Regional

Lead Type: New Opening

Average Check: \$50 and Up

Menu Type: Steak/Seafood

Summary: The Waterman Fish Bar will open a new location at Charlotte Douglas International Airport in Terminal C at 5501 Josh Birmingham Pkwy, Charlotte, North Carolina 28208, in the upcoming weeks. The expansion follows the closure of its Cornelius location at 9615 Bailey Road on February 2. High Tide Hospitality, led by co-founder and president Paul Manley, sees the airport opening as a major opportunity for the seafood brand's future growth.

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Spice Basket

1155 Timber Drive
Garner, NC 27529

Kameswari Marellapu

Owner

Est. Opening Date: April 1, 2025

Publication Date: Jan. 30, 2025

Location Type: Independent

Lead Type: New Opening

Average Check: \$20 and Under

Menu Type: Asian

Summary: A source reported that a new Indian restaurant, dubbed Spice Basket, will be opening soon at 1155 Timber Drive, Garner, North Carolina 27529. The owner has recently submitted plans for renovations at this location.

OG Prime Steakhouse

4951 Linksland Drive
Holly Springs, NC 27540
www.osteriag.com

Joe Reinis

Owner

Est. Opening Date: Sep. 1, 2025

Publication Date: Jan. 30, 2025

Location Type: Independent

Lead Type: Update

Average Check: \$50 and Up

Menu Type: Steak/Seafood

Summary: UPDATE!! We previously reported that the popular Osteria G restaurant owners were planning a new two-level steakhouse dubbed OG Prime Steakhouse located at 4951 Linksland Drive and Holly Springs Road, Holly Springs, North Carolina 27540. We now know that the goal is to open in September 2025. The 5,280-sqft venue will feature a fine dining, "old New York Gatsby" style with a cigar lounge, event space, and outdoor seating. The menu will include classic steakhouse dishes, dry-aged meats, and a curated wine list. The couple estimates an investment of \$5 to \$7 million and plans to hire 60-70 staff members. This new venture marks their move into high-end dining, offering a refined but approachable experience.

Mr. Henry Lounge & Cocktails

413 Woodburn Road
Raleigh, NC 27605

Matthew Bettinger

Owner

Est. Opening Date: June 15, 2025

Publication Date: Jan. 30, 2025

Location Type: Independent

Lead Type: New Opening

Average Check: \$20 to \$50

Menu Type: Bar & Grill/Pub

Summary: Matthew Bettinger, known for SideBar and Hank's Downtown Dive, is opening Mr. Henry Lounge & Cocktails in Raleigh's Village District in June 2025. The 2,000-square-foot bar will be located at 413 Woodburn Road, in the former Which Wich space by Goodnights Comedy Club. Bettinger aims to bring nightlife back to the district, joining other spots like Goodnights and Postino. The bar will offer a mix of classic and unique cocktails, with a rotating staff of 8 to 10 employees.

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Toastique

1000 Social Street
Raleigh, NC 27609
www.toastique.com

Kyle Izett
President/CFO
Est. Opening Date: Aug. 15, 2025
Publication Date: Jan. 28, 2025

Location Type: Franchise
Lead Type: New Opening
Average Check: \$20 and Under
Menu Type: Sandwich/Soup/Salad

Summary: Toastique, a popular chain offering toasts, juices, smoothies, and acai bowls, is set to open its first Raleigh location at The Exchange Raleigh in Q3 2025. The café will be located at 1000 Social Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27609. Franchisees Jessalyn Abril and Kristi Kaltenbach have leased 1,415 sqft of space in Dewitt Carolina's development near North Hills. The menu includes items like Avocado Smash Toast, Smoked Salmon Toast, cold-pressed juices, and more, with a focus on fresh, responsibly sourced ingredients.

Squeeze

1601 New Bern Ave
Raleigh, NC 27610

Wes Woody
Owner
Est. Opening Date: March 10, 2025
Publication Date: Jan. 28, 2025

Location Type: Regional
Lead Type: New Opening
Average Check: \$20 and Under
Menu Type: Sandwich/Soup/Salad

Summary: Wes Woody, a Raleigh native, will launch his first solo venture, Squeeze, a juice bar and cafe dedicated to health and wellness. The menu will include fresh juices, acai bowls, customizable smoothies, and nutritious meals like salads, sandwiches, and flatbreads. Squeeze is set to open in March 2025 at 1601 New Bern Ave., Raleigh, North Carolina, as part of a redevelopment project to revitalize the New Bern corridor.

Guard & Grace

1111 S Tryon Street
Charlotte, NC 28203
www.guardandgrace.com

Ally Wolf
Director of Private Events
Est. Opening Date: Sep. 1, 2025
Publication Date: Jan. 28, 2025

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

Summary: Guard and Grace, a popular Denver-based steakhouse, will open a location in mid-2026 at 1111 S Tryon St, Charlotte, North Carolina 28203, within the Queensbridge Collective development. The 10,224-sqft restaurant will offer both indoor and outdoor seating, a full bar, private dining rooms, and a 2,000-sqft outdoor deck with panoramic skyline views. The menu will feature beef, seafood, house-made charcuterie, seasonal vegetarian options, wine, and cocktails.

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The Writer's Room

3123 N Davidson St
Suite 104
Charlotte, NC 28205
www.thewritersroomnoda.com

Cory Duran
Owner
Est. Opening Date: Mar. 4, 2025
Publication Date: Jan. 28, 2025

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

Summary: The Writer's Room, a bar celebrating local artists of all genres, will open sometime this year at 3123 N Davidson St., Suite 104, Charlotte, North Carolina 28205. The venue will feature a chill atmosphere, ideal for conversations, dates, or meetings. Offerings will include light bites like charcuterie, along with a selection of wines, local beers, and classic cocktails crafted with local spirits.

Village Inn Pizza Parlor

125 Bush Drive
Morganton, NC 28655
www.villageinnpizza.com

Will Lackey
CEO
Est. Opening Date: Mar. 5, 2025
Publication Date: Jan. 28, 2025

Location Type: Independent
Lead Type: Relocation
Average Check: \$20 and Under
Menu Type: Pizza/Italian

Summary: Sources have reported that Village Inn Pizza Parlor plans to relocate its existing Morganton location to 125 Bush Dr, Morganton, North Carolina 28655. The new site is an existing facility currently under renovation. The exact opening date is not yet available, but the move will provide an updated space for the popular pizza parlor.

La Pizza Restaurant

336 Sembler Lane
Cary, NC 27519

Elizabeth Traner
Owner
Est. Opening Date: April 1, 2025
Publication Date: Jan. 28, 2025

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

Summary: A source reports that plans have been submitted for a new restaurant called La Pizza Restaurant, to be located at 336 Sembler Lane, Cary, North Carolina 27519. The 2,800-square-foot space is slated for renovation. Details regarding the opening date and hours of operation are not yet available.