

# For goodness' CAKE

Gigi's Cupcakes will add one more ingredient to the town's cupcake craze.

By Cheney Gardner  
Staff Writer

It looks like Chapel Hill is still crazy for cupcakes. In January, Gigi's Cupcakes plans to open a store in the upcoming 140 West Franklin mixed-use development.

The cupcake franchise — which was started in Nashville — already has more than 45 locations, including stores in Raleigh and Cary.

Chris Arcara, regional marketing director for Gigi's Cupcakes, said customers have been asking for a Chapel Hill location.

"We already have relationships with some venues there and we have been providing cupcakes to weddings for quite some time," he said.

"It just seemed to be the next step in our expansion."

And Gigi's will be the newest addition to the thriving cupcake scene in Chapel Hill — joining the ranks of Sugarland, Carolina Cafe and Bakery, Weaver Street Market and Miel Bon Bons.

**DTH ONLINE:** Visit [dailytarheel.com](http://dailytarheel.com) for a video of Sugarland staff and customers describing the cupcake culture in Chapel Hill. Sugarland is one of several cupcake vendors in town.



DTH/CECE PASCUAL



## GIGI'S

**ADDRESS:** 140 W. Franklin St., Chapel Hill

**WHO:** Chris Arcara, regional marketing director

**SWEET NOTHINGs:** "Gigi's

Cupcakes are baked fresh every morning and frosted right out of the oven after they've cooled. Everything we do is done by hand — with the exception of the electric

mixer."

**BESTSELLERS:** Wedding Cake, Red Velvet and Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough

**PRICE:** \$3.25



## SUGARLAND

**ADDRESS:** 140 E. Franklin St., Chapel Hill

**WHO:** Katrina Ryan, owner and executive chef

**SWEET NOTHINGs:** "We make every single thing from scratch. My butter bill is bigger than my rent."

**BESTSELLERS:** Peanut Butter Blast

**PRICE:** \$3.50



## CAFE CAROLINA AND BAKERY

**ADDRESS:** 601 Meadowmont Village Circle, Chapel Hill

**WHO:** Melissa Scott, supervisor

**SWEET NOTHINGs:** "People come from far and wide to eat our cupcakes."

**BESTSELLERS:** Vanilla with Carolina blue icing

**PRICE:** \$1.81



## WEAVER STREET MARKET

**ADDRESS:** 101 E. Weaver St., Carrboro

**WHO:** Katey Smollen, prepared foods manager

**SWEET NOTHINGs:** "We try to use as many local ingredients as possible."

**BESTSELLERS:** Chocolate

**PRICE:** \$1.99



## MIEL BON BONs

**ADDRESS:** 200 N. Greensboro Road, Carrboro

**WHO:** Bonnie Lau, owner and pastry chef

**SWEET NOTHINGs:** "We have over 30 different flavors, and they're very seasonal."

**BESTSELLERS:** Passion Fruit Macadamia

**PRICE:** \$3 (50-cent discount for students)

# Planned move leads to worry

The plan to demolish University Square will be discussed at a Nov. 12 meeting.

By Daniel Schere  
Staff Writer

For 42 years, customers have frequented Larry Trollinger's University Square business, Ken's Quickie Mart. But that will all change as early as fall 2013.

Tenants of the University Square development — located at 123 W. Franklin St. — are facing relocation as the University moves forward with a plan to demolish and reconstruct the shopping center.

The project will replace the existing University Square structure with a combination of office, retail and residential space, along with 1,000 parking spots. Granville Towers will stay where it is.

In 2010, the Chapel Hill Town Council unanimously adopted a concept plan for the project. Last year, a public forum was held to discuss the development.

On Nov. 12, the council will discuss plans to move forward.

But Trollinger and other University Square tenants are upset about the plan.

"What they're basically doing is forcing us out of business," he said.

He plans to close his store and retire once the plans for the project are approved.

"There's nowhere for me to go in this town," he said.

Gordon Merklein, executive director of real estate development at UNC, said unlike the current development, the new storefronts will face the sidewalk to help attract more customers.

"We're making the project much more urban and pedestrian friendly," he said.

Merklein said if the council approves the project, it will then go through a zoning compliance review process that could take up to six months.

Merklein, who also serves as vice chair of the Chapel Hill Downtown Partnership, said all of the work will be done on-site and will not affect other parts of Franklin Street.

He said the plan has received strong support from the public but has been met with mixed feelings from University Square business owners.

"Each of the tenants has reacted differently," he said.

Cynthia Lennon has operated Cynthia's Tailor Shop out of University Square for eight years and doesn't think there is anything wrong with the current shopping center.

"To me it's fine like it is," she said.

Lennon said she has not yet found a space to relocate, but she thinks her business will be negatively affected by the move.

Time-Out — which has served chicken and cheddar biscuits out of its University Square location since 1978 — recently announced plans to open a food truck because of the proposed demolition.

Merklein said Chapel Hill Foundation Real Estate Holdings has been working with several University Square tenants to find a space to relocate to since they were notified of the project in 2009.

He said tenants will not be compensated because their leases will have expired by the time construction begins, but he believes the transformation will be worthwhile.

"It's going to provide a big economic boost for the town," he said.

Contact the desk editor at [city@dailytarheel.com](mailto:city@dailytarheel.com).

# ACLU speaks on bus ad

The ACLU said in a letter banning the ad would be a violation of free speech.

By Sam Fletcher  
Staff Writer

After weeks of debate, a divisive bus ad on Chapel Hill Transit buses is still causing controversy.

And now, with a Chapel Hill Town Council special meeting about the ads scheduled for Oct. 11, the American Civil Liberties Union has spoken out in defense of free speech.

In an open letter sent to Chapel Hill town officials Oct. 1, the ACLU said banning the advertisements would be a violation of free speech.

"The law says you cannot restrict speech in public forums because of its content, because of its viewpoint," said Chris Brook, legal director of ACLU-North Carolina. "Any efforts to



DTH FILE/SILVANA GOBERDHAN-VIGLE

A public hearing is scheduled to discuss political bus ads like the one above.

bar this would be unconstitutional."

Brook said the ACLU was contacted by town residents who were concerned about a possible ban on political advertisements.

He said the residents believe banning bus ads would suppress open dialogue in Chapel Hill — a

SEE BUS ADS, PAGE 6

# Neighbors criticize Bingham Facility

Preserve Rural Orange has asked the attorney general to investigate.

By Kathryn Trogdon  
Staff Writer

A local environmental group is taking steps to ensure UNC followed procedure when it bought properties surrounding an animal research facility.

Preserve Rural Orange sent a letter on Sept. 21 to North Carolina Attorney General Roy Cooper, asking him to investigate the recent purchase of two properties that expanded the facility's land by 12.5 acres.

The Bingham Facility — located

in a rural area of western Orange County — is an animal research center owned and operated by UNC.

The facility, which was fined for leaking treated wastewater in 2009 and 2010, has come under fire from neighbors for its lack of transparency.

A 4.21 acre property was purchased for \$225,000 in 2010 and a second 8.32 acre property was purchased for \$444,000 in September.

Robert Lowman, UNC associate vice chancellor for research, said UNC followed the proper procedures in the recent purchases.

"We've certainly made every

SEE BINGHAM, PAGE 6

# Inside

## WHERE'S MY WAR HORSE

A chat with UNC alumnus Michael Stewart Allen, who is in the off-Broadway production of acclaimed play "War Horse." **Page 3.**



## HAZED AND CONFUSED

In addition to several recent complaints of hazing in UNC fraternities, other universities have also been facing hazing struggles. Administrators say hazing doesn't promote brotherhood, contrary to how it's depicted by some groups. **Page 4.**

## ATHLETES TWEET

On Tuesday, a panel including UNC's associate athletic director, an athlete and the DTH's very own sports editor, Brandon Moree, discussed athletes and social media policies. **Page 9.**

## Today's weather

Dun ... dun ... dunnn  
H 83, L 63

## Thursday's weather

The grossness saga continues  
H 81, L 58

“I’ve never met a problem a proper cupcake couldn’t fix.”  
SARAH OCKLER, “BITTERSWEET”