

Foodie news

Durham, Orange & Chatham Restaurant News

In Chapel Hill, **Coco Bistro & Bar** continued their "evolution" announcing that their full bar, and zero-proof bar, is now up and running. It features a variety of selected wines, beers on draft and bottled, and a number of craft cocktails, including some wonderful herbaceous cocktails created just for Coco Bistro & Bar. Their new hours extend until 9 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. They are located at the new Gwendolyn Building in Glen Lennox. **Visit them here.**

And not to be outdone, the good folks over at Bites of Bull City have put together their list of the best openings and expansions of 2021

There is no doubt we saw more closings in 2021 than anyone wanted. We wanted to take a moment to let our restaurants that pivoted, shifted and re-invented themselves that this past week North Carolina launched a \$500 million program to help restaurants and other small businesses recover from pandemic-related losses. The North Carolina Business Recovery Grant Program allows business owners who have seen at least a 20 percent decline in revenue to apply for grants equal to 10 percent of their losses, up to \$500,000. Because the hospitality industry was hit so hard by closures and other restrictions, \$300 million of the fund is earmarked for restaurants, hotels, bars and other entertainment businesses.