



## BIZ: A QUICK GLANCE AT TRIANGLE HAPPENINGS

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### ► SILICON SWING



GETTY IMAGES/JUSTIN SULLIVAN

Tim Cook is headed to North Carolina to speak at Duke University.

### GOVERNOR VISITS TECH GIANTS IN CALIFORNIA – BUT MISSES ONE

More details are emerging about Gov. Roy Cooper's stealthy trip to California.

In San Francisco last month for economic development meetings, Cooper met with multiple technology giants – from Google to LinkedIn to Cisco, spokesman Ford Porter said.

But Porter said Apple, rumored to be considering an expansion in North Carolina, was not on the itinerary.

Does that mean North Carolina is off the short list? Not necessarily, says site-selection consultant John Boyd of the New Jersey-based Boyd Group. Boyd says he wouldn't read anything negative into Apple's absence.

"Apple is very familiar with Raleigh and has a solid relationship with the state's [economic development] professionals," Boyd says. "Just because the governor didn't meet with Apple on this trip, that doesn't mean he hasn't been in contact with company executives. There are hundreds of tech companies in [California] that are ripe candidates for North Carolina to target."

Apple CEO Tim Cook, who got his MBA at Duke University, will be in town to speak at Duke's graduation May 13. So Cooper could get another shot to pitch the state – this time on his home turf.

### ► SWEET HOME



TBJ FILE PHOTO

N.C. State University's Lonnie Poole Golf Course will host NCAA play.

### WOLFPACK GLAD TO BE HOME FOR NCAA TOURNAMENT

Being at home in postseason play is always a great thing, and that's especially true in golf.

This year, N.C. State University gets to tee off here when the Wolfpack hosts the NCAA Raleigh Regional at the Lonnie Poole Golf Course.

The field includes No. 5 Georgia Tech, No. 9 California and Duke. The competition, begins May 14 and concludes May 16. Admission is free.

Raleigh's Stephen Franken leads NCSU with a stroke average of 70.27. Survivors advance to the NCAA Championships in Stillwater, Oklahoma.

### DOWNTOWN LIVING



BEN GRAHAM

The Saint brownstones going up in Raleigh near Saint Mary's School.

## More luxury brownstones rising in downtown Raleigh

The façade of the new Saint row house development in downtown Raleigh is lined with black brick and finished with a shiny glaze, but architect Souheil Alawar still thinks of the luxury dwellings as brownstones.

That's because the concept of a brownstone, according to Alawar, is about more than the type of material used to finish the exterior. It's about creating a living environment that is at once dense and urban, but also spacious and private.

"The idea is you can live in these vertical spaces," says Alawar, who also is part of the team developing the project. The lead developer is Toronto-based Modus LLC and CEO Azim Fancy.

Seven of the 17 homes at The Saint have sold, and the first batch are on

schedule to wrap up construction by the end of the summer. The homes face St. Mary's Street, just across from Saint Mary's School.

The ground floor has a room elevator, with access to all four floors and a two-car garage.

Prices range from the high \$900,000s to as much as \$1.4 million, while the homes vary in size from 2,638 square feet to more than 4,100.

The Saint is one of several row house-style luxury developments making inroads in downtown Raleigh in recent years. In addition to Hargett Place, which sold all 17 of its brownstones by the end of April, Lambert Development has begun construction on 11 high-end row homes along Clark Avenue. Starting price: \$900,000.

### ► UP FOR AUCTION

## Well, this would be a cool place to live

Here at Biz, we're always thinking, how can we get to the coast? So this auction caught our attention.

About 34 miles off the coast of North Carolina is a former Coast Guard station that is now a bed and breakfast – and it's for sale. Richard Neal bought the structure from the government in 2010 and started an auction to sell it at the beginning of May.

The high bidder as of May 8: \$42,000. A three-day, two-night stay is \$598, but transportation is not included.

Neal, in a Facebook post, says the tower is doing fine – even has beer on tap – but it's time to "pass the torch."



FPTOWER.COM

Former Coast Guard station is now a bed and breakfast – and it's for sale.

### ► MOTIVATION



WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY

Bakari Sellers will speak at two Triangle schools for graduation.

### BAKARI SELLERS TO SPEAK AT NCCU, SHAW UNIVERSITIES

Bakari Sellers – a former representative from South Carolina, attorney and CNN political commentator – is going to be popular in the Triangle on a big graduation weekend.

Sellers will serve as the keynote speaker at North Carolina Central University's graduate and professional commencement ceremony May 11.

He'll also serve as the keynote speaker for Shaw University's 2018 Spring Commencement May 12.

In 2006, Sellers became a member of South Carolina legislature at the age of 22. He served there until 2014, when he won the Democratic nomination for lieutenant governor.

"We are looking forward to his address, as Mr. Sellers' dedication to public service offers encouragement for our graduates to be successful global citizens," Shaw Interim President Paulette Dillard said in a statement.

N.C. Rep. Chaz Beasley will serve as NCCU's speaker for students receiving undergraduate degrees May 12.

At North HBCU in the Triangle, financial services executive William H. Wright II will serve as the commencement speaker for St. Augustine's University on May 12.

### ► BIG BOOST

## CHICK-FIL-A IS FUELING GROWTH ... IN BARBECUE COUNTRY?

Lexington – a town in western North Carolina known for its barbecue – may be on the upswing because of a different food source.

Chick-fil-A arrived in the city in October, and City Manager Alan Carson has seen growth throughout the city ever since.

"I look at it as kind of a stamp of approval for our community," Carson told Triad Business Journal. "I don't know if our boom is because of Chick-fil-A, but I bet it's part of it. I don't think it's all coincidental. Two weeks after Chick-fil-A opened, I got a call that the Hampton Inn was coming."

Also coming: a Lidl grocery store and a new sports bar. More development is ahead, he says.

