

What you should know about Carrboro

Chapel Hill's closest neighbor offers food, and unique experiences.

By Faith McElroy
Staff Writer

Carrboro is known in the Triangle as the dwelling where long hair is ubiquitous, walking around barefoot is the norm and reading philosophy is a pastime instead of a mandate.

As Chapel Hill's closest neighbor and the home of nearly 20,000 residents, Carrboro provides a convenient alternative to traveling to Durham. Just take the F, J or CW bus lines for a trip to North Carolina's hipster capital.

Wendy's

Wendy's is the only drive-through in your vicinity.

According to Chapel Hill zoning laws, no restaurants in the

city's limits may serve dinner through your window. But for those of you enjoying the occasional meal behind the wheel, the nearest one is a three-minute drive to South Greensboro Street.

"I went there once to redeem a free Frosty," said Tou Vang Xiong, a sophomore chemistry major.

Xiong said it only takes him 10 minutes to get there by bike.

Farmer's Market

As most of you will soon discover, UNC students are known for their activism. The best way to support local farms while simultaneously nourishing yourself with fresh veggies is by visiting the farmer's market. Located on West Main Street next to the Carrboro Town Hall, the market runs from 7 a.m. to noon on Saturdays.

"The best part of the farmer's market, besides the food, is that you get to know the people raising your food," said Sarah Bufkin, a senior history major.

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In addition to offering meat, cheese and freshly baked bread, the farmer's market also sells produce, flowers and handmade crafts.

Harris Teeter

For you Very Important Customers arriving this fall, there is a 24-hour Harris Teeter on North Greensboro Street in Carrboro. On the F bus line, this is one of the closest grocery stores to campus. Sadly, during the last few visits I made, the only free cookies left were the sugar-free versions, which made my trip less enjoyable.

"The Carrboro Harris Teeter is really convenient," said sophomore economics major Jennifer Craven.

"It's in a nice community and the people there are really friendly."

Shop smart and cut out some

savings — Harris Teeter has a double coupon policy that lets customers get double the savings on most transactions.

Parlez-Vous Crepe Truck

For a Parisian start to your day, visit the Glasshalfull parking lot on South Greensboro Street. Parlez-Vous serves a variety of breakfast options — all made in the 10-by-6-foot box in front of you.

The owner, Jody Argote, brings her crepe-making skills to Carrboro every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"I was inspired to create my own crepes after my first visit," said junior biology major Laura Kennerly. "They are just like the ones I had in France."

"I enjoy having homemade crepes available just down the road from where I live."

But make sure to have enough cash on hand, since they don't accept credit cards.

Open Eye Cafe

After you've fulfilled your literary art general education requirement and Starbucks becomes too "franchise-y" for you, the independently owned coffee shop, Open Eye Cafe, serves Carrboro citizens and adventurous college students on the corner of East Main Street and South Greensboro Street.

The cozy café offers plenty of seating, freshly brewed java and an assortment of pastries.

Open Eye continuously displays local and national art and regularly features live music and poetry readings.

The cafe is a great study habitat and a comfortable space to unwind. Don't miss out on this native treasure.

Club Nova

Located on West Main Street, Club Nova not only helps mentally ill citizens reintegrate into society, but it also sometimes has Tommy Hilfiger sweaters for \$3.

Although small, this thrift shop is packed to the brim with used goodies. It accepts and sells donations of used clothes, toys and home furnishings.

"Sometimes they have a '\$5 bag sale,'" said junior biology and psychology double major Lauren Baldwin. "They give you a paper grocery bag and let you fill it up and charge you \$5 for everything you can fit in there."

She said she split the deal with two friends, each paying less than \$2 for three or more items.

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