

and bike-friendly trail tying its popular downtown area to East Tupelo and the Elvis Presley Birthplace. The trail is set to open early this summer. [tupelomainstreet.com](http://tupelomainstreet.com)

## MISSOURI

### 23 St. Louis Is Singing the Blues

Robert Cray, Jack White, and Morgan Freeman are among those who are supporting the National Blues Museum, which is scheduled to open in April in St. Louis. Celebrating the impact of blues on American music, the cultural center will offer artifacts, interactive exhibits, and a performance hall. [nationalbluesmuseum.org](http://nationalbluesmuseum.org)

## NORTH CAROLINA

### 24 Wilson Has a Whirligig Park

Begun three years ago and set for 2017 completion, the Vollis Simpson Whirligig Park in Wilson will showcase and preserve the late artist's inventive works, which drew international attention. [wilsonwhirligigpark.org](http://wilsonwhirligigpark.org)

### 25 We're Bunking at Biltmore

Biltmore now offers two lodging options: posh and private at the Inn on Biltmore Estate or cottagey and casual at the new Village Hotel, which is just steps away from the Antler

Hill Village and Biltmore Winery. Hotel guests also enjoy a free estate shuttle. [biltmore.com/stay/hotel](http://biltmore.com/stay/hotel)

### 26 Raleigh Tastes Better Than Ever

Raleigh recently welcomed chef Scott Crawford's new Standard Foods, a restaurant and grocery that celebrates both traditional farmers and artisanal producers with its farm-to-table menu and an assortment of retail products. [standard-foods.com](http://standard-foods.com)

### 27 The Triangle Has a Beer Garden

What's the brew-haha? The brand-new, 500-square-foot Raleigh Beer Garden has opened in the capital city with a whopping 366 options on tap, including 144 North Carolina brews. The popular watering hole joins a thriving beer

scene that includes the 21-stop Raleigh Beer Trail; Beltline Brew Tours, three- to four-hour visits to several breweries in Raleigh and Durham; and even a pedal-powered Trolley Pub, which conducts lively sipping tours through Raleigh. [theraleighbeergarden.com](http://theraleighbeergarden.com)

## SOUTH CAROLINA

### 28 Charleston Gaillard Center Gets a Standing O

The \$142 million renovation to Gaillard Municipal Auditorium is proof of Charleston's progressive thinking and its commitment to the arts. The contemporary auditorium, built in the late sixties, wasn't aging gracefully. But now the Gaillard is both visually and acoustically stunning and brings city offices and an 1,800-seat, world-class performance hall under one roof. [gaillardcenter.com](http://gaillardcenter.com)

“**ROBERT CRAY, JACK WHITE, AND MORGAN FREEMAN ARE AMONG THOSE SUPPORTING THE NATIONAL BLUES MUSEUM.**”

## TENNESSEE

### 29 Chattanooga Is Creating a STIR

Part of the new Chattanooga Choo-Choo entertainment district, STIR restaurant and bar puts innovative spins on fresh, local ingredients. It elevates craft cocktails with 350 spirits and an ice chef. [stirchattanooga.com](http://stirchattanooga.com)

## 30-32

### Our Blue Jeans Look Better

*Southern designers are putting their own spins on everybody's favorite fashion staple.*

**M**OTHER-DAUGHTER DUO Kathy Moça and Emilie Whitaker, who launched curve-hugging Beija-Flor jeans in Greenville, South Carolina, have a new Nashville locale, and Bloomingdale's will begin carrying the jeans this spring ([beijaflorjeans.com](http://beijaflorjeans.com)). Online purveyor Blue Delta Jeans has a flagship store in Oxford, Mississippi, where you can customize your jeans ([bluedeltajeans.com](http://bluedeltajeans.com)). And in Kansas City, Missouri, Matt and Emily Baldwin's Baldwin denim was featured in *Vogue* as a 2015 finalist for The Council of Fashion Designers of America's CFDA/*Vogue* Fashion Fund endowment ([baldwin.co](http://baldwin.co)).