



Business News

Ben & Jerry's, 2 comedy clubs & new Falcon Tavern coming

04:36 PM MDT on Friday, March 13, 2009

Don Day
KTVB.COM



Boise will soon get a Ben & Jerry's shop, among other new businesses coming to downtown

BOISE - Several new businesses will open or expand in downtown Boise in coming months.

Hijinx Comedy Club will open in the old Boogie Woogie's space above The North Face in the Mode building. The club is owned by several former managers and workers at the Funny Bone Comedy Club, which closed last year.

"We didn't want to let comedy leave Boise," owner Brian Lee said. "After they closed the Funny Bone we decided to get together and make it happen."

The club is slated to open by the second week of April - and Lee says it will feature live national comedy acts five nights per week. He is hoping to book a big name for the grand opening, and says he is talking to acts like Wanda Sykes, Cedric the Entertainer and Chelsea Handler.

Lee and his partners aren't the only ones hoping to bring comedy back to downtown Boise. The owners of Meridian's Bull's Head Pub will launch Texas Boogie in the former 8th Street Wine Company location in the 8th Street Marketplace. The business will feature a bar, southwest cuisine-style restaurant... and a comedy club.

Spokesperson Courtney Feider said the owners are excited to bring their experience with the Meridian location to the new Boise venture.

She says the owners, including Scott Koritansky, looked at 8th Street as a good spot - since many nearby businesses are doing well and thriving.

"This family has been in business for a long time," Feider said. "They wanted to move into Boise, and they chose 8th street because things are happening."

The restaurant and dueling piano bar will open first by mid-April -- with the comedy club launching in coming months.

Another new business will try to make you smile -- but through your stomach instead of your ears.

Ben and Jerry's will open its first Idaho franchise in the Gem and Noble building on 10th street. Franchisee Matt Groll thinks downtown is on the verge of a resurgence and that the time is right for his business.

"What we looked at is that Ben & Jerry's is an all-natural super-premium ice cream," he said. "It's outstanding product-wise. We're going to staff it with people who are happy and friendly. People need more fun in their lives."

Groll said prices will be reasonable - with a small scoop going for less than \$3.

Opening day also happens to be the national Ben & Jerry's Free Scoop day... Groll says he is hoping for a line.

The popular Falcon Tavern is leaving its perch on Idaho Street for a new nest nearby. The restaurant will take over the Satchel's Grill spot on Bannock street between Capitol and 8th.

The new location will give the restaurant more seating and a larger patio.

Related: [Idaho Fry Co. aims to make side dish a gourmet treat](#)