

COMINGS & GOINGS } HILARY HOWARD



PROXIMITY HOTEL/CHIP HOLTON

## A Green Hotel Grows in Greensboro

Greensboro is an apt name for a town that will be home to one of the greenest hotels in the country. The Proximity Hotel ([www.proximityhotel.com](http://www.proximityhotel.com)), in North Carolina's Piedmont region, is striving for gold certification from the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Green Building Rating System. Only one hotel in the country — the Gaia Napa Valley in California — has that rating so far.

To be the second, Proximity is planning to use 100 rooftop solar panels; recycle 75 percent of its con-

struction waste; capture rainwater to irrigate its gardens; grow vegetables on the restaurant's roof; and use about half the energy of a conventional hotel through an air-exchange system. The hotel, named after a former cotton mill nearby, will have a warehouse look, above, and loft-style guestrooms, all with original art on the walls. And the windows will actually open.

The hotel will celebrate its Nov. 1 opening with starting rates of \$119 on weekends through Jan. 13.