

Strike up the brands for the Corbin Park shopping center

Groundbreaking for the shopping center is Aug. 30 in Overland Park

By JOYCE SMITH
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The lineup for the long-anticipated **Corbin Park** shopping center in southern Johnson County now includes **Backwoods, Caliente Cuban Restaurant, J.C. Penney, Old Navy** and **Sports Authority**.

Cormac Co., Omaha, Neb.-based developers of the open-air center at the southeast corner of 135th Street and Metcalf Avenue, plans to announce the latest tenants at an official groundbreaking ceremony today. The company said it also is in negotiations for an upscale hotel.

The first phase of the 1 million-plus-square-foot center is scheduled to open in fall 2008.

"I love the demographics within a five-mile radius (of Corbin Park) — tons of residential with a high disposable income," said Kerry Duffin, owner of Kansas City-based Caliente Cuban Restaurant, which celebrates Cuban cuisine, culture, art and heritage, including salsa dancing.

This will be the second location for Caliente.

"Out there it will be seven days a week lunch and dinner," said Duffin, who was working Wednesday at the first Caliente, which opened this summer at **The Legends at Village West** in Kansas City, Kan. "Out here it is more dinner and weekend. It is more touristy and you don't have a lot of rooftops. We don't get a lot of regulars with the exception of the salsa dancers."

As for the other new Corbin Park tenants:

- Backwoods, a Wichita-based company, will relocate its store at 11940 W. 119th St. to the new center in March 2008. The outdoor adventure stores specialize in apparel and equipment for fly fishing, backpacking, hiking, camping and climbing. Brands include Merrell, Patagonia, Reef, North Face and Osprey. The company also offers adventure trips.
- A 104,000-square-foot J.C. Penney store will include a Sephora store-within-a-store offering makeup, skin care, fragrance and accessory products.
- Old Navy will offer apparel and accessories for children and adults at value prices.
- Sports Authority, one of the country's largest sporting-goods chains, sells a variety of items in six categories: footwear, apparel, team sports, fitness, golf and winter sports.



Corbin Park will have a “modern Tuscan” design with highly landscaped water features and an amphitheater.

Previously announced tenants include **Barnes & Noble**, bookseller and coffeehouse; **Best Buy**, with a higher-end Magnolia home theater showcase; **Biaggi’s Ristorante Italiano**, a casual but white-tablecloth restaurant offering house-made and imported pasta and other meals; and **Gordon Biersch**, brewery and restaurant featuring made-from-scratch menu items and daily specials.

Von Maur, an upscale fashion department store based in Davenport, Iowa, will be one of the anchors with a 130,000-square-foot, two-story store.

Cormac also previously announced a “commitment” from **Off Broadway Shoe Warehouse**. And **Life Time Fitness**, a 110,000-square-foot, \$25 million gym has already opened in the center.

“We are proud to bring a premier development to such a great community,” said Steve Dunn, director of business development for Cormac.

The 96-site center has been in development for several years and under different ownerships. In the meantime, the south Johnson County shopping center market has become increasingly competitive.

Crate and Barrel opened in the new **One Nineteen** at 119th and Roe Avenue, and other retailers are planned for the center.

Park Place, a nearly \$300 million urban-styled, mixed-used community, is under construction at 117th Street and Nall Avenue in Leawood, just north of **Town Center Plaza**, and other area projects also are in development.