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Jimmy John's eatery coming to Beaufort Town Center

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Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwiches will make its Beaufort-area debut with a new shop on Boundary Street in Beaufort Town Center.

The franchise is scheduled to open in September at the former site of Rita's, according to a Jimmy John's spokeswoman.

"We're very pleased to have them as an addition," said Dick Stewart, CEO of 303 Associates, which owns and operates Beaufort Town Center.

For more information on the eatery and to see a menu, go to www.jimmyjohns.com.

OLIVE GARDEN, RED LOBSTER UPDATE

More changes are under way at another Boundary Street parcel near the future Jimmy John's site.

Contractors broke ground last week on a new building that will house both an Olive Garden and Red Lobster in front of the Hilton Garden Inn.

Stewart said he expects the restaurants -- which went through months of extensive, sometimes contentious design review -- to open by February.

The restaurants will create about 60 full-time jobs with benefits and 30 additional positions, Stewart has said. They also are expected to generate about \$450,000 a year in sales, hospitality and other taxes and fees.

OTHER BUSINESSES

Other recent business openings, closings and changes in the area:

- Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar plans to open a location on Robert Smalls Parkway near Bojangles'.

The company is in the final stages of design review with the city of Beaufort and hopes to begin construction of a 5,000-square-foot building in October, said Randy Groover, the company's regional marketing manager.

If all goes according to schedule, the sports bar and restaurant would open in late March, Groover said.

"We have really looked at South Carolina as a state to grow," Groover said. "South Carolina is a great sports state, even though it doesn't have a (major league) sports team."

The company typically hires 120 to 140 employees for each new location.

"That will typically happen about five weeks out from opening," said Groover, who added that those interested should check for signs at the building site and online for more information as the restaurant nears completion.

Although hours have not been set, the typical Buffalo Wild Wings is open 11 a.m. to 1 a.m., Groover said.

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