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San Jacinto home to many new retail outlets


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Despite the economic woes that have hit Inland Southern California, the city of San Jacinto has announced numerous new retail openings and construction.

A new 13,297-square-foot CVS/pharmacy is planned at the southwest corner of Sanderson and Cottonwood avenues. The grand opening is expected in fall 2009. KZ Holdings of Irvine is the developer.

Denny's franchisee, Denway Inc. of Redlands, has begun construction on a 4,000-square-foot Denny's restaurant at 1290 N. State St.

"My husband, Hamid, and I love the Denny's concept because it is very people-oriented and cost-conscious, while offering a great menu with quality food," said Denway's co-owner Ashley Navran. The Navrans already operate two Denny's restaurants in Hemet.

The new Denny's will be located on the west side of North State Street, between Community College Drive and Ramona Expressway at the Mountain View Plaza, a new 76,000-square-foot neighborhood shopping center developed by San Juan Capistrano-based Southland Development. Denny's will join Rite-Aid, Panda Express, 7-Eleven Convenience Store and gas station, and a host of other new tenants. The restaurant is expected to open in late summer or early fall.

At the northeast corner of State Street and Ramona Boulevard, Sugarberry Properties of Murrieta recently completed the construction of Ramona Crossings, a single-level 50,000-square-foot mixed-use center. Robert Torrales Jr., a managing partner of Sugarberry Properties who is responsible for the development and leasing of Ramona Crossings, says he has leased more than 25,000 square feet of space at the center.

Tenants at Ramona Crossings that are expected to open later this month include: Threads Clothing Store, which carries clothing and a variety of sunglasses, snow and moto goggles, and other accessories; Mattress Brothers, which has three other locations in the Inland Empire; a 7,600-square-foot flagship office for Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians; and Professional Beauty Supply. GameTime is expected to open next month and other tenants slated to open in the next few months include Sprint, Domino's Pizza, a Beauty College and Tacos Tijuana Mexican Grill. This will be Tacos Tijuana's fourth restaurant in the Inland Empire.

Although development has slowed, the city of San Jacinto remains on solid financial ground with the largest reserve in the city's history, reported San Jacinto's Economic Development Manager Sharon Paisley. Most recently, while sales tax revenue countywide declined nearly 10 percent in the third quarter of 2008, San Jacinto's revenue increased 10 percent.

Last year's opening of new retailers such as Wal-Mart Supercenter, Walgreens and Rite Aid contributed to the rise in sales tax revenue.