



# Panera opens; other eateries eye Powell area

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Panera bread opened its newest restaurant Friday just off of U.S. 23S in the Lewis Center Shopping plaza.

"We are bringing something different to customers around the area," said Panera regional president and co-partner Jeff Rains. "We are a coffee house/restaurant and we provide our customers with a relaxed setting and a place where they can come in and do business."

The restaurant chain, which has roots in St. Louis, Mo., has 15 stores in Franklin and Delaware counties, and Rains did not rule out a possible location within the Delaware city limits in the near future.

The restaurant serves a variety of gourmet coffees, teas, pastries and breads. Soups and sandwiches are available, along with gift and carryout services.

In January, the restaurant will be one of the first in the area to feature wireless Internet access free of charge to those clients with laptop computers.

"This a place where people come and do business," Rains said. "People have their offices here and we want to make this friendly to those people."

A grand opening celebration was held Friday.

Doors open at 6 a.m. every day with closing times varying upon the season and day of week.

#### **Powell may see two more businesses**

A Graeter's Ice Cream and City Barbeque might be coming to Powell, according to the city's community affairs coordinator, Shea Crawford.

Developers submitted plans to the city planning and zoning commission Dec. 3. The proposed location is on the northeast corner of Sawmill Parkway and Powell Road.

Both businesses will have separate buildings with a look consistent with that of the nearby Big Bear Center, according to the plans. Graeter's proposes a 1,950-square-foot building, while City BBQ would be housed in a 3,094-square-foot structure. Both will feature outdoor seating as well, said Crawford.

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