

Wilhoit Plaza boasts 100,000 square feet of lifestyle

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A night out in downtown Springfield will soon offer visitors a whole lot more. The Matt Miller Co. unveiled the renovated Wilhoit Plaza last week, which will feature restaurants, national and local retail and loft living.

"It's a 100,000 square-foot lifestyle center where people can live, work, dine and shop, all within one development," developer Matt Miller said.

For Nixans, this means more places to eat and shop when strolling the First Friday Art Walk or before a play at the Landers Theatre, for instance. The backside of the building offers more than 150 parking spaces, with an additional 400 or so less than a block away.

"This is the first opportunity for people coming from the south to park," Miller said. "It's a gateway to downtown from the southside. People coming in from Nixa can cruise downtown for dinner or the theater and park here and enjoy the businesses."

The bottom floor, which is more than 60,000 square feet, will be home to Quiznos Subs, Planet Smoothie, Granddaddy's Que & More, Ophelia's Tapas and Wine Bar and Gracie's Bridal and Special Occassion, plus a few businesses yet to be determined. The middle floor is dedicated to downtown loft living ranging from one-bedroom apartments to multi-level, multi-bedroom expanses. The top floor is occupied by Conco Concrete Company, providing office space for about 30 employees.

"This is our fourth downtown Springfield historic redevelopment project," Miller said. "I feel the market has really accepted what this development is all about."

The new Wilhoit Plaza will serve as the gateway to downtown Springfield for Nixans looking to shop and play.

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