

SEATTLE-POST INTELLIGENCER

Biotech's hunger pangs heard: eateries snap up space in South Lake Union

By Christine Frey
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Five new retailers are leasing space from Vulcan Inc. and will open in the South Lake Union neighborhood over the next few months, the company said yesterday.

The owners of Irish Emigrant in the University District will launch another restaurant, Paddy Coyne's Irish Pub, in May. A bistro called Henry's will open that same month, started by the owners of Still Life Bistro in Fremont.

Uptown Espresso plans to open a coffee house there later this summer. And a new cafe called Rosalind's recently starting service in the neighborhood.

In addition to the restaurants and cafes, boat dealership West Coast Frogs will begin selling Italian-made Zar brand boats this month at Chandler's Cove marina.

Restaurant operators said the additions would better serve the new office and biomedical workers that are moving into the area.

"There's not a lot around there," said Bob Day, one of the owners of Still Life Bistro.

"I think lunch will be an important time for us."

Vulcan's office buildings will soon take in about 600 employees from the Seattle Biomedical Research Institute, Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center and Rosetta Inpharmatics/Merck. That number will more than double later this year when Tommy Bahama's headquarters and University of Washington medical labs move into the area.

A new 162-unit apartment complex is also set to open on Vulcan property in May.

The five new retailers announced yesterday will take over 12,600 square feet. Other projects planned for Vulcan's property will incorporate additional retail, said Ada Healey, vice president of real estate for Vulcan. Its 2200 Westlake project, for instance, will include a 50,000-square-foot grocery store.

"All of these new companies will be looking for retail amenities and service, and we're really excited to be able to bring in more of those services to the neighborhood," she said.

Vulcan owns more than 50 acres in the South Lake Union neighborhood.