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STORE FRONT by Bob Niedt from The Post-Standard

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Yogen Fruz to open this weekend at ShoppingTown Mall

Posted by [Bob Niedt / The Post-Standard](#) July 15, 2009 8:53AM

Categories: [Shoppingtown](#)



Dick Blume / The Post-Standard, 2002

Rumors have several stores ShoppingTown Mall possibly closing this year; one store, Yogen Fruz, opens this weekend.

While noise about multiple stores possibly closing this year at [ShoppingTown Mall](#) amplifies, one is actually opening, [Yogen Fruz](#) -- which was supposed to open last week as confirmed by the company and the mall -- is actually opening this weekend. There was a last-minute delay last weekend.

What else? Well, nothing opening, but talks along the drumline that there may be several more stores closing before the end of the year. That's just talk, mind you, but when it gets loud and long, you have to ask questions. So I did.

I checked with ShoppingTown's (and Great Northern Mall's) owner Macerich Cos.

"I can't comment on behalf of retailers regarding their business plans and you'd have to confirm any rumors directly with them. Today, I am not aware of any planned store closings. But, I can tell you that Yogen Fruz is opening this weekend," said Rebecca Stenholm, speaking for Macerich.

Express checkout

An amplification on the [Smorol's Restaurant](#) fried chicken dinner special that started this week: It's Tuesdays through Thursdays only, through August.

You're seeing some activity at the former Weber's restaurant in Syracuse. I'm hearing it's going to be Mona Lisa's Family Soul Food Restaurant.

A follow-up on the new construction in Waterloo: A Store Front blog regular tells us, "the mystery building on Route 414 in Seneca Falls, just north of Routes 5 & 20, it is not a Lowe's, but is a new Walmart Supercenter."

Another reader, Keith J. Stockman, writes, "FYI, the existing Walmart just east of Newark is being redone and expanded into a somewhat scaled-down super Walmart (without automotive services and a couple other usual Super amenities). When I passed by the store on Saturday it looked quite interesting ... with about half of the new front Walmart motif alongside the old motif. This expansion was possibly one reason that P&C decided to close its Newark store earlier this year (located in a plaza next to the Newark Walmart). ... It will be interesting to see if the Seneca Falls P&C will survive when the Waterloo Super Walmart opens. Redevelopment of the Geneva Walmart was in the works but seems to be holding for the time being and given the delays it encountered in getting some necessary approvals. So, it seems Walmart continues to move forward in some fashion during this economic downturn."

Yes, but cautiously and more modestly than originally planned. Where they can (East Syracuse, for example), they are greatly expanding food offerings.

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