

12/17/90:

New Food Town to open in Ames Plaza

A new and bigger Food Town supermarket will open in Ames Plaza this spring and the present Food Town in the 800 block of South Main Street will close.

"With the opening of our new store, we will create 75 new jobs, doubling the existing work force," said Rich Iott, president of Seaway Food Town.

Seaway Food Town, Inc. has signed a 15-year lease to anchor the Ames Plaza, now expected to be renamed Food Town Plaza.

The new Food Town Plus will be the largest in the 58-store chain. The 61,000-square-foot store will feature a full-line deli/bakery, a full-service meat and fresh seafood shop and a video department. In addition, the new store will have an increased emphasis on health

and beauty aids, housewares, an expanded produce department, seasonal and promotional goods and a full-service floral shop.

"Because of the tremendous acceptance of the Food Town Plus stores in other communities, we are excited about this opportunity for our growth in Bowling Green," said Iott. "The store will offer increased services and varieties to our existing customers, accommodate significant growth in the area and also attract new customers as a result of our commitment to the community."

The new store decor will reflect Food Town's latest prototype designs incorporating bold graphics, contemporary colors and accent lighting. A spring 1991 grand opening is planned.

The 67,000-square-foot Ames Plaza, located on South Main Street, will undergo a 1.5 million dollar renovation, according to the Purchase, N.Y., firm which owns the center.

"We plan to completely modernize the center," said Daniel Zelson, National Realty & Development Corp., "including a new facade, a completely resurfaced parking lot and new sidewalks. We also have the ability to expand the center in the future."

Zelson, director of retail leasing for National Realty, said the firm is enthusiastic about Food Town's relocation to the center. "The entire transaction has been exciting. Ames notified us that they would auction their lease in 10 days.

Within three days we followed up on an earlier mailing to prospective tenants and began negotiating with Food Town. We had to have the new lease signed before we could buy back the Ames contract. We worked with Food Town through the night on a term lease, in the car on the way to bankruptcy court, signed the lease and finally bid on the property."

Seaway Food Town, Inc. operates 71 retail units — 56 supermarkets and 14 discount drug stores operating under the name of Pharm. Two new Food Town Plus stores are presently under construction in Northwood and in Lambertville, Mich. All stores are located in Northwestern and Central Ohio and Southeastern Michigan.

4/29/93:



BG Pharm is 19th in chain

Frank Shuff (left), Sylvania's manager, and Jean Haas, Bowling Green, is assistant manager of the Pharm, the 19th store in the chain which opened earlier this month at 1044 N. Main St. The Pharm claims every-

day pricing of 15 to 60 percent below traditional drugstores on a variety of health and beauty aids, household, general and seasonal merchandise and prescription drugs. (Sentinel-Tribune photo by Marc Bowersox)