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APRIL 16, 2009

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David's Natural Market Opens at Bel Air North Village Shopping Center

David's Natural Market, a full-service food store specializing in natural and organic meats, produce, dairy products, and vitamins, will celebrate their expansion with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Saturday, May 2nd. The new 4,800 square foot store at 1523-E Rock Spring Road in the Bel Air North Village Shopping Center offers health-conscious customers a full line of organic produce, a walk-in cooler stocked with to-go lunches, a large selection of allergy-free merchandise, and agricultural products from local farms.

The Market, formerly located in a 1,500 square foot space in Bel Air, has increased its business 75% in Harford County as the demand for organic food, lacking synthetic and chemical ingredients, has grown.

"We have had a steady increase in our clientele each year," said Jill Stankis, Manager of the Forest Hill Store. "New studies are released each month identifying the new and concerning side-effects of eating foods that have been treated with pesticides, chemicals, and hormones. As a result, more and more people are opting to eliminate by-products and preservatives from their diets," she added.

Stankis also credits the store's growth to the growing popularity and expansion of gluten-free and allergy-free products.

"Ten years ago there were only a handful of these products in the marketplace, now people with celiac disease and other food allergies can find products that are good tasting and delicious," said Stankis.

David's Natural Market offers the largest gluten-free product line in the County, and attributes nearly a third of their sales to this hard-to-find merchandise.

"David's Natural Market offers a one-of-a-kind experience. This, their strategic location on Route 24 in Forest Hill, and the area's expanding population offers a competitive advantage in the retail market." said Debbie Haney, Senior Real Estate Advisor with MacKenzie Commercial Real Estate Services, LLC, who represented the Landlord in the transaction.

"Working with MacKenzie has been wonderful," said Stankis, who also cited the new shopping center's excellent visibility, and abundant parking as reasons for the move. "Debbie Haney was professional, always responsive, and very accommodating," she added.

"We are thrilled with the outstanding, and long-term success of David's Natural Market and anticipate they will continue to increase their business at the new location," said Jim Richardson, Director of the Harford County Office of Economic Development. "We are fortunate in Harford County that APG, a thriving health care industry, close proximity to Baltimore, and a number of other market drivers help cushion our economy from the impacts of the national recession, allowing progressive businesses to expand in any market," he added.

David's Natural Market, which also operates stores in Columbia and Gambrills, employs 15 in Harford County including three nutritionists, who can offer assistance for those who may have questions about special diets and nutritional supplements. Plans for the May 2nd ribbon cutting include organic food tastings, free samples, coupons, children's entertainment, and outdoor vendors.

For more information on David's Natural Market and upcoming events, please visit www.davidnaturalmarket.com or contact Jill Stankis at 410.836.0008. To learn more about new retail opportunities in Harford County, contact Debbie Haney at 410-494-6659 or ghaney@mackenziecommercial.com.

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