



Atlantic Lofts opens downtown

Groups hope others will follow residents and help revitalize area

By Fanny S. Chirinos
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Atlantic Lofts opening



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CORPUS CHRISTI — Upscale, spacious residential lofts are available downtown at the former Atlantic/Mobil Oil Co. building. A grand opening and public viewing are scheduled today through Sunday.

The Atlantic Lofts, 36 condominiums ranging from 1,000 square feet to 2,100 square feet, at 901 N. Upper Broadway St., are in what once was a deteriorating building distinctive for its gold window shutters. The renovation and transformation project broke ground February 2007 and is expected to help revitalize downtown Corpus Christi. That would be the expected result of injecting residents who would generate a demand for retail business.

John Vidaurri, executive director of the Corpus Christi Downtown Management District, said the condo project joins the Bay Vista Apartments, Metropolis and Nueces Lofts in offering a good start to downtown revitalization. The project is a joint venture between the Adame Group, an affiliate of Joe Adame and Associates, and the family of Hall of Fame pitcher Nolan Ryan.

"One of the keys in attracting outside investors to the area is having the local community invest in it," Vidaurri said. "That's been done through the 2004 and 2008 passage of bond packages and through projects such as Atlantic Lofts. These things always attract attention from the outside community."

About five of the 36 units of Atlantic Lofts have been reserved. Prices range from \$250,000 a unit to \$550,000 a unit, said Evonne Gottsch, a sales executive.

Joe Adame, principal of the Adame Group, said the masses needed to make downtown a central living district require a combination of permanent and rental residential space.

"The more living space there is, the more vibrant the area becomes," Adame said. "Hopefully, we've initiated the step for others to follow."

Other pending projects that would add residential spaces to the area are Nueces Lofts, phase two of the Bay Vista Apartments and the remodeling of the former H-E-B headquarters building on Upper Broadway Street, two doors from Atlantic Lofts.

The Nueces Lofts, a 66-unit complex, is expected to near completion in April, Vidaurri said. The 65-unit Metropolis still is expected to move forward once the economy picks up, he added. The second phase of the Bay Vista Apartments will add 181 units to the current 169, Vidaurri said.

For more information on the Atlantic Lofts, call 289-2779.

Open house

What: The Atlantic Lofts

When: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. today through Saturday; 1 to 6 p.m. Sunday

Where: 901 N. Upper Broadway St.

Information: 289-2779

See floor plans online at theatlanticlofts.com/residences.



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