

# SCOTTSDALE REPUBLIC

**10 BUSINESS**

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## Bashas' chain moves into far N. Scottsdale

AJ's Fine Foods opens for business on Saturday

By Jane Larson  
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**SCOTTSDALE** — Bashas' Inc. will open its newest Scottsdale store Saturday when an AJ's Fine Foods officially greets its first customers.

The store in the Scottsdale North Marketplace, at Scottsdale and Lone Mountain roads, represents the northernmost Scottsdale store for the Chandler-based Bashas' grocery chain.

It anchors the 84,668-square-foot shopping center being developed by the Pederson Group of Phoenix.

With 26,667 square feet, the new AJ's includes a wine-tasting area, wood-fired pizza oven, boulangerie, sushi and olive bars, and an outdoor barbecue with patio seating. A dining bistro will feature hot entrees prepared daily by chefs.

Catering, flowers and made-to-order gift baskets also will be available.

"We are confident that Scottsdale North Marketplace will create a wonderful shopping experience for residents of the Northeast Valley," Vice Chairman Johnny Basha said in a statement.

Bashas' also is reinvesting in a central Scottsdale store.

Last month, it started a year-long expansion and remodeling of the store in the Park Scottsdale shopping center, at McDonald Drive and Granite Reef Road.

The project will add 13,000 square feet to the location, Bashas' spokeswoman Kristy Nied said. Additions will include a gelato and juice bar, pharmacy, brick-oven pizza kitchen and MediMin Inc. walk-in health clinic.

The deli, bakery and floral department will be expanded, and the meat and seafood sections upgraded, Nied said.

The store will remain open



Sharon Ringe checks the display of nuts as AJ's Fine Foods at Scottsdale and Lone Mountain roads prepares for its opening Saturday.

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# AJ's extends Bashas' brand to far north Scottsdale

## GROCERY STORE

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during the remodeling, which will be done in phases, she said. Bashas' expects to complete the project by the end of 2008.

The fate of the aging Bashas' store at 74th Street and McDowell Road is less clear.

The chain has no immediate plans to remodel or close the south Scottsdale store, Nied said. She said the company's real-estate team has been watching the development in the area, which includes SkySong, the ASU Scottsdale Innovation Center.

The chain most recently rebuilt its store at Indian School and Hayden roads, about three miles north of the McDowell Road location, in 2005.

With the opening of the Lone Mountain Road AJ's, the company will have a total of six Bashas' stores and five AJ's stores in Scottsdale. It also owns a Food City just south of the Scottsdale-Tempe border at Scottsdale and McKellips roads.

Carpenter Jermain Biggs constructs a coffee display case at the new AJ's Fine Foods. The new market in far north Scottsdale will include a wine-tasting area, wood-fired pizza oven, boulangerie, sushi and olive bars, and an outdoor barbecue.



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