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## **Wilder Companies adds Jo-Ann Fabric & Crafts to two New Hampshire Malls**

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According to The Wilder Companies, Jo-Ann Fabric and Crafts recently opened at Belknap Mall, the only enclosed shopping mall north of Concord. Located in the heart of the Lakes Region, the center provides one-stop shopping to local residents, seasonal visitors and area tourists. The new store joins Peebles Department Store, Shaw's, Maurices, Lakes Region Jewelers, CVS, and Dunkin' Donuts. The 218,500 s/f mall and plaza is located on U.S. Rte. 3, the Daniel Webster Hwy. at the base of the Rte. 3 Bypass in tax-free New Hampshire.

Currently under construction, Jo-Ann Fabric and Crafts is preparing for a late spring opening at Rochester Crossing. This 304,500 s/f shopping center featuring Kohl's, Lowe's, Famous Footwear, GameStop and Tropical Smoothie is located in Rochester, just off Exit 13 of the Spaulding Tpke. in New Hampshire's Seacoast Region.

As one of the nation's largest specialty retailers of fabrics and one of the largest specialty retailers of crafts Jo-Ann serves customers in their pursuit of apparel and craft sewing, crafting, home decorating and other creative endeavors. The store features a variety of competitively priced merchandise including fabrics, notions, crafts, frames, paper crafting material, artificial floral, home accents, finished seasonal and home décor merchandise.

"The addition of Jo-Ann adds greatly to the merchandise mix at both shopping centers," said Paige Quigley, property and marketing manager for Wilder's New Hampshire shopping centers. "The new stores fill a much needed void in both markets."

Based in Boston, The Wilder Companies specializes in the merchandising and positioning of retail properties. The company has over 40 years experience developing regional malls, specialty centers and urban, mixed-use developments throughout the country and Puerto Rico. In addition to its own investment partnerships Wilder provides property management and leasing services for institutions, owners and investors. The company currently has a diverse portfolio of over 50 properties throughout the eastern U.S. including Wayside in Burlington, Mass. and The LOOP & LOOP West in Orlando/Kissimmee, Fla.

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