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Auburn Pointe tenant combines hair salon, Internet coffee house

Wichita Business Journal - by [Adam Knapp](#)



ADAM KNAPP / WBJ

Christy Crites, front, will be starting Java Salon in the Auburn Pointe retail strip center in mid-May. Behind her are designers Chelsea Petz (left) and Robin Skidmore.

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Java Salon, a combination of an Internet coffee cafe and a full-style hair salon, is the newest tenant in the Auburn Pointe retail strip center.

It is the first business venture for owner Christy Crites, who has scheduled a tentative opening date of May 15.

"She has a good concept, and it's something completely new to Wichita," says Brady Miller of **Occidental Management**, which operates Auburn Pointe.

Crites, a 30-year-old Valley Center native, says there are similar businesses on the east and west coasts.

"The concept kind of came out of my clients coming in and needing to be able to get work done and get their salon services done at the same time," Crites says. "I designed it around being a coffee lover myself and my clients loving coffee ... It just kind of all came together."

Laurie Ford, director of the **Eric Fisher Academy**, says she was excited to hear about Java Salon.

"Competition is good, and I think it's great when somebody comes in to the market and establishes something new and trendy for the Midwest," Ford says. "It sounds exciting and it sounds neat. It's a fun concept and it's great for people to try new things and raise the bar for everybody else."

Java Salon will be 1,600 square feet. Crites says it will have a coffee house atmosphere with a bistro and a coffee bar with several different flavors, including Java Salon's own private label.

It will also have six hair styling stations and a treatment room for services such as waxing. Wireless Internet will be set up by Crites' husband, who works in IT for the **Wichita Clinic**.

Crites says she loves the Auburn Pointe location and says the proximity to **Dillons** and **Walgreens** nearby make it an attractive choice. Auburn Pointe already has Sino's Chinese and sushi restaurant, **Subway**, **Great Clips**, **Sassy Nails** and the **Animal Hospital at Auburn Hills**.

Java Salon

Location: Auburn Pointe, 13303 W. Maple St., Wichita, Kan., 67235.

Tentative opening date: May 15.

Appointments: May be scheduled by e-mailing info@javasalonwichita.com.

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