



Developer Sabi Varon is creating a \$10 million mixed-use project on South Rainbow Drive in south DeKalb. Photos by Andy Phelan.



An artist's rendering shows what the Candler Point shops will look like on South Rainbow Drive.

Candler Point to give entrepreneurs shot at ownership

by Andy Phelan
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Today Erika Robinson, a speech and language pathologist, rents the space for her business near Candler Road in south DeKalb.

But by early next year she

nity for my business," she said. "I can't wait to start."

Candler Point, which is being built by local developer Sabi Varon, will have 54 retail storefronts and 17 town homes. Altogether there will be eight buildings with more than 100,000 square feet of space.

"This idea is unique when it comes to retail and very unique for this area," said Varon, who is planning 10 similar projects throughout metro Atlanta. "We're not after big anchors, but new types of businesses for the area."

In addition to Robinson's clinic, Varon said a 24-hour gym, a flower shop and a dry cleaner have already expressed interest in the project, which is slated to begin opening in January '08.

Varon said he hopes to have a coffee shop, shoe store and wedding hall as part of the mix of businesses.

Commissioner Larry Johnson, who emphasizes quality development in his district, couldn't be more pleased with

Candler Point, which sits just across Candler Road from The Gallery at South DeKalb mall.

"I'm excited about what's happening here," said Johnson. "More than \$25 million in projects are coming to this area including the new South DeKalb Arts Center, the Columbia Drive Recreation Center and sidewalks and streetscapes up

and down Candler Road."

Varon said the town homes would sell in the "high \$100,000" range, and affordable and attainable financing is available.

Johnson thanked Varon for investing in the oft-maligned corridor that sits just south of I-20 near I-285.

"This is the right time to invest in this area," he said. "This whole area is growing."



Candler Point, a \$10 million mixed-use development in south DeKalb, will have more than 100,000 square feet of retail space and offer entrepreneurs a chance to own their business space.

plans to move her child therapy clinic to a new five-acre, \$10 million mixed-use development on South Rainbow Drive called Candler Point.

Here Robinson will be part of a new concept in business property—she'll own the retail space instead of having huge monthly lease payments.

"This is a perfect opportu-



CHAMBER MONTHLY EVENTS

Business After-Hours
Business Builder Series
First Monday Lunch
Government Affairs Council
Network DeKalb Leads Group

EVENTS

AUG. 15TH - Network DeKalb Leads Group - NEW LOCATION - OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE - LaVista Location - 2145 LaVista Road, Atlanta, GA 30329 - 404-636-5110. COST: \$10.00 for Members and \$15.00 for Non-members. To attend please RSVP via email at rsvp@dekalbchamber.org.

AUG. 21ST - GETTING STARTED WITH CONSTANT CONTACT - With email being one of the primary forms of communications used today among many businesses, the popularity of email programs such as CONSTANT CONTACT has increased dramatically. Learn how you can promote your business with email newsletters and announcements; build and manage your email lists and create and send HTML emails in minutes. The workshop is open to the public. **COST: \$25.00. RSVP & Prepay by: August 16th to 404-378-8000 or email jleonard@dekalbchamber.org. Attendants must register and prepay for this workshop.**

AUG. 28TH - CONSTANT CONTACT BEYOND THE BASICS: Learn NEW program tools designed for the Constant Contact user. It's time to take your email campaigns to the next level. Learn simple enhancements that help your email broadcast campaign stand out from the rest. The workshop is open to the public. **COST: \$25.00. RSVP & Prepay by: Aug. 23rd to 404-378-8000 x 224 or email to jleonard@dekalbchamber.org. Attendants must register and prepay for this workshop.**

For more information on DeKalb Chamber related events, visit our website at www.dekalbchamber.org - 404-378-8000

THE ATLANTA REGIONAL MED WEEK

Anniversary

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, August 19, 2007	Monday, August 20, 2007
<p>Event: MED Week in the Faith Community Day Place: Local Faith Institutions Time: Morning Worship Hour Contact: Catherine Williams (404) 331-0100 ext. 704 Cheryl May-Holmes (404) 730-3300</p>	<p>Event: U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) MED Week Access to Capital Seminar Place: SBA-Georgia District Office 233 Peachtree Street, N.E., Suite 1900 Harris Tower at Peachtree Center Atlanta, GA 30303 Time: 2:30 p.m. -- 4:30 p.m. Contact: Catherine Williams (404) 331-0100 ext. 704 Cost: Free</p>
<p>Event: Atlanta Braves - MED Week Kick-Off Reception Place: Turner Field: 755 Hank Aaron Drive Atlanta, GA Time: 1:05 p.m. Contact: Lisle Dorsey (404) 614-1444 Cost: Invitation Only</p>	<div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Tuesday, August 21, 2007</div> <p>Event: MED Week Buyer's Tour Place: Selected Minority-Owned Businesses in the Atlanta Metropolitan Area Time: 8:00 a.m. -- 4:30 p.m. Contact: Rodney Baker (404) 730-3307 Fred Williams (404) 730-3309 Cost: Invitation Only</p>
<div style="background-color: #333; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Monday, August 20, 2007</div> <p>Event: 25th Annual Regional MED Week Awards Luncheon Place: Atlanta Marriot Marquis Hotel 265 Peachtree Center Avenue Atlanta, GA Time: 12:00 noon Contact: Leona Barr-Davenport (404) 584-8126 Yvonne Wiltz (404) 347-1054 Cost: \$75</p>	

For tickets, call 404-584-8126 & for additional information visit www.medweek.gov or call 404.730.3300.