

## NEWS RELEASE

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Covington Foods announced today that the company has purchased the Southgate Plaza shopping center located at 1628 Georgetown road in Tilton Illinois. The company intends to operate the shopping center for the current tenants and plans to open a County Market store in this location in late spring or early summer in 2012. The new 35,000 square foot supermarket will be located in the vacated space of the Eagle store that served the Tilton community for over 25 years. Eagle left the market in 2003.

The company plans a complete interior remodel to the grocery store with new flooring, ceilings, new décor and new energy efficient equipment. They also plan on making significant improvements to the exterior of the mall and parking area over the next several months.

The new store is expected to add between 60-75 full time and part time jobs to the Tilton area.

Company officials are pleased to join with Tilton city officials and with the residents of Tilton in developing a grocery store that will serve their needs and the needs of Southern Vermilion County over the coming years.

Gary Peacock, Vice President of the company commented, "We are very optimistic about the future of Vermilion County and this planned investment is our way of being a bigger part of that future."

Covington Foods is a locally owned supermarket chain that operates County Market stores in Danville Illinois and Crawfordsville Indiana, IGA stores in Covington and Attica Indiana, and Convenience stores in Attica and Crawfordsville Indiana.

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