



JOLENE GUZMAN/Itemizer-Observer

Ari Riecke, left, Anytime Fitness manager, and owners Kelly and Michael Davis recently reopened the downtown gym.

Anytime Fitness flexes muscles at new downtown location

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — Michael Davis hasn't gotten a lot of sleep lately.

Davis and his wife, Kelly Davis, recently opened their new Anytime Fitness location on Main Street in Dallas, and the remodel has been his life for months.

"We are still trying to get the finishing touches done. We just couldn't get it all done before we had to be out of the old building," Kelly said. "We had to move in before we were completely finished. It'll be another two weeks, and we will be done."

Michael's full-time job is as a contractor, so he and a small crew of family did most of the work on an extensive remodel of the gym, located in the former Plain & Fancy shop.

On occasion, he and his son would work for more

Anytime Fitness
Where: 740 Main St., Dallas.
Contact: 503-623-1131.
For more information: www.anytimefitness.com.

than 36 hours at a time.

"We basically destroyed everything, and then my youngest son and I pretty much put it back together," Michael said. "We've done everything. We did the demo. We poured the concrete floors. We framed everything back in, insulated, painted, hung the doors, did all the finish work."

He installed a new roof and took out a second story in part of the building, which was built in 1910.

"It leaves all of what would normally be hidden exposed on the inside, which is kind of unique," he said. "It's got little rough

ends here and there, but it is a 107 years old. It's entitled to have a few rough ends."

The building has housed many businesses in its time — a gas station, car dealership, hardware store and gift shop — and Michael found several relics from its past lives. Kelly, who was born in Dallas, plans to create a shadow box and timeline that will document the history of the building.

"We would really like to showcase what this building has been for the last 107 years," she said.

Michael said a few members stopped by as it evolved from gift shop to gym, and a few seemed worried about the opening timeline.

"They would have this puzzled and confused look and would ask, 'When are you going to open?'" Michael said.

But the family made it work. Kelly took a vacation from her full-time job at a

dentist's office to help with the move and make sure the transition was smooth.

The new location provides about 2,000-square feet of space for equipment, a larger classroom and a designated parking lot.

Now that they own the gym building, the couple has more freedom to make changes as they see fit.

"We have some pretty good exposure on Main Street, and we were able to take a building that was just sitting here and make it to something practical," Michael said.

That is another highlight to the new location. Kelly and Michael said they want their business to be part of the slow rebirth they see happening in the city's core. Their hope is the move will have their members spend more time downtown.

"Our wish is for downtown Dallas to be revitalized," Kelly said.

BUSINESS NOTES

CrossFit gym moves to Main Street

DALLAS — Harvest CrossFit has moved to 761 Main St., in the former Polka Dots building.

The Dallas Area Chamber of Commerce will host a ribbon cutting at the new location on Friday at 11 a.m.

Regular classes are offered Monday and Wednesday at 5 a.m., 6 a.m., 8:30 a.m., noon, 4 p.m., 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday, Thursday, Friday at 5 a.m., 6 a.m., 8:30 a.m., noon, 4:30 p.m., 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Go to harvestcrossfit.com for information on pricing, introductory classes and programs for children and teens.

Contact: Devin Jones — 509-899-2388 or devin@harvestcrossfit.com; or MacLarin Jones — 509-859-3779 or maclarin@harvestcrossfit.com.

State Farm moves to East Ellendale

DALLAS — State Farm agent Mitch Ratzlaff's office has moved to a newly remodeled building on East Ellendale in Dallas.

Ratzlaff's new address is 488 E. Ellendale Ave., suite No. 1, across Polk Station Road from the Dallas Department of Motor Vehicles office. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Contact: 503-623-5875 or www.mitchratzclaff.com.

Oakdale's new-to-you principal

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer



Baughman

DALLAS — Tuesday marked the beginning of a new school year and a new school for Oakdale Heights Elementary School Principal Todd Baughman.

Baughman held the same position at Lyle Elementary School for 13 years.

"I'm really excited to work with this new team," Baughman said Friday as teachers, staff, and construction crews rushed to get the building ready Tuesday's arrival of students.

The 2017-18 school year will be a transition for Baughman and Oakdale. Construction at the school won't be finished before school begins, so students will have to use temporary detours around the multipurpose room that won't be complete for a few more months. Students will have to wait what a few weeks to

break in what they think is the best "renovation."

"The playground is much improved," Baughman said. "The kids are going to be excited to see all the new playground equipment. Unfortunately, it won't quite be ready for the beginning of the year."

Construction on the multipurpose room will continue until January, as originally planned.

Crews worked feverishly last week to get the front entrance ready for Tuesday's "Orientation Day," a day-long open house in which students and parents can bring school supplies, meet teachers and get information on bus routes and school lunches.

Workers were still paving the sidewalk and working on the roof and siding of the entrance Friday.

"If everything goes according to what we've been planning and hearing for the last couple of weeks, we are on track, just in the nick of time," Baughman said.

He said his switch from Lyle to Oakdale has been smooth. He began spending time at Oakdale in the spring, gradually getting the point where he was there every day.

"Our mission is the same at both of our K-3 schools. We have shared practices, instructional practices across both schools," Baughman said. "We work a lot jointly. The K-3 schools, our staffs are together frequently for trainings and get together to share ideas and support each other."

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