

Chris Isaak to perform free concert at new mall's grand opening

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Platinum record artist Chris Isaak is set to highlight the grand opening celebration at The Arboretum of South Barrington later this month.

The free concert takes place at 7 p.m. Sept. 27 on the plaza stage at the new 600,000 square-foot outdoor shopping center near routes 59 and 72.

Guests are encouraged to bring a lawn chair. Parking is available at the nearby Sears Centre Arena, with continuous shuttle service from 3 to 10 p.m., according to concert organizers.

In Isaak's career, he's released nine albums, 12 hit singles, been nominated for two Grammy awards, acted in several motion pictures and starred in his own critically acclaimed TV series. Some of Isaak's hit singles include Wicked Games and Baby Did A Bad Bad Thing.

The concert is part of a weekend of grand opening activities. Children's activities, strolling entertainment, exhibitions and a fireworks display are part of the event running from Sept. 26-28, said Michael Jaffe, principal of Northbrook-based The Jaffe Companies, owner and developer of the \$200 million project. He expects that about \$1 million will be devoted to the grand opening events.

"We want to properly introduce the project as one of the most important new retail developments in the Chicago area in terms of scale, retail offerings and ambience," Jaffe said.

Many of the stores will participate in the grand opening, including L.L. Bean, the Maine-based outdoor gear and apparel store that is opening its first Midwest store here; Pinstripes Bocce, Bowling & Bistro and Anna Shea Chocolates & Lounge.

The latest retailers to sign leases at the center include Nozumi Sushi, a new urban-contemporary Japanese restaurant and sushi bar and high-end eyeglass Glam Optique. They're set to open in September as well.