

WEDNESDAY APRIL 9, 2008

Penney's walls up by Brennan David

J.C. Penney's walls are up and the old mall walls are down as renovations continue at Hammond Square.

Sterling Properties Project Manager Dick Cyr said Monday the new J.C. Penney's retail store is on schedule for its fall opening. The walls are visible to motorists traveling on C.M. Fagan Drive. Dirt work and other work remain to be completed.

The construction crew is scheduled to begin pouring asphalt for Hammond Square Road by the end of the week. The road will encompass the entire mall area and is scheduled for completion in the next 30 days. Stirling Properties will then transfer the road to the city.

Resurfacing of Dillard's front parking lot is to begin today. A designated area will be set aside for shoppers to reach all entries of the store.

Upon completion of the front parking lot, Dillard's south parking lot will be resurfaced.

Resurfacing of the Sear's parking lot is still over a month away, Cyr said.

Rite Aid's back wall has been enclosed, surfaced with a new facade. The new wall is the first glimpse of what mall may look like.

Construction of the extended parking lot for AMC Theatre will also begin shortly, he said. The parking lot will be extended to the south, and should be complete by May 15.

The old mall slab is still under demolition and is the only mall item left to be removed.

At the mall entrance, construction continues on US 51. Turning lanes will be added to the congested area, with construction scheduled for completion in mid-August.



PENNEY'S — Walls for the new J.C. Penney retail store are going up at Hammond Square. Photo by Brennan David