



## Fat Daddy's Pizza, Fudpucker's and The Track join forces

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2010-04-07 19:28:39

DESTIN — Three businesses are partnering on a family-oriented endeavor expected to open early this summer.

Fat Daddy's Arcade, Pizza & Ice Cream brings together the owners of The Track recreation center, the original Fat Daddy's Pizza in Santa Rosa Beach and Fudpucker's Beachside Bar & Grill. The new restaurant and arcade will be in the building that housed Father Fud's Central Market last year next to the Destin Fudpucker's,

"We got together and decided it would be a good concept with the pizza, the arcade and ice cream," said Craig Norwood, owner of The Track. "We're all family oriented. It sounded like a good combination. Everyone thought it would be a success with the three entities involved."

Fat Daddy's Arcade, Pizza & Ice Cream will feature three separate businesses working at the one location.

Norwood will operate the arcade, which will feature nearly 90 new and classic games.

Chris Beard and Patrick Chimento, who opened the original Fat Daddy's Pizza in 2006, will open their second restaurant as part of the partnership. The Destin location will have the same pizza as the original location and will offer dine-in, carry out and delivery service.

Fudpucker's owners Tim Edwards and Chester Kroeger will oversee the ice cream shop.

"What makes this venture work for all of us is that we formed the arrangement as friends," Edwards wrote in an e-mail. "In fact, one of the original propositions was written out on a Fudpucker's napkin."

The owners of the new Fat Daddy's project are targeting a mid-May opening, but said the business definitely would be open before June 1.

Fat Daddy's Arcade, Pizza & Ice Cream is designed to appeal to families and replicate the feel of the popular Dave & Buster's restaurant chain.

"There are three different entities, but we're all working together for the same atmosphere," Beard said. "When you go on vacation in Florida, there really is not a good location that has a nice combo where the parents can enjoy themselves and the kids can enjoy themselves, especially indoors."

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