COMING SOON: story by siena scornavacco

llegal Pete's, a classic Boulder restaurant, is opening up a new location in the Table Mesa shopping center. Every week, countless high school students can be found devouring the delicious Mexican food within the exciting atmosphere of the restaurant.

Illegal Pete's was founded in 1995 by CU alumni, Pete Turner Sr. Today, the restaurant has a combined 12 locations, in Arizona and Colorado. A 13th location is opening up near Fairview this spring. The restaurant is expected to open mid April.

High school and college students are a primary audience for the restaurant. The atmosphere attracts young people, with fun music and affordable prices.

"[High Schoolers] love Pete's because it's cheaper, and it's good to grab on the go. The workers are also so nice" said Aya Margalit (11). "It has fresher ingredients and it's local," she adds. Since the mid nineties, the delicious burritos and Mexican cuisine have been a staple for all Boulderites.

"I think the good vibes we carry behind the line draws the high school students in, and we make great food so it speaks for itself" said John Francis, an employee at Illegal Pete's on Pearl Street.

The restaurant will move into the Table Mesa shopping center, next to Play it Again Sports. Expected to open in mid April of this year, Illegal Pete's will take over the space that Murphy's had previously occupied. Being so popular, the new restaurant is expected to bring in more business to the surrounding stores.

"I'm really excited, I work at Sweet Cow so the [opening] is going to bring in more business. We have been low on business since Murphy's was closed" said Giada Haskins (11). Having a quick and easy restaurant, only a few minutes away from hungry high school students, will have Fairview students' wallets more empty than ever.

While this new addition may not be beneficial to students' bank accounts, it certainly will be to the surrounding buisnesses. "I love [Pete's] so much, I'm going to go there for all my lunches, definitely gonna go broke though'' said Charlie Aitken (10).

The franchise prides itself on its timeless environment, and creating tasty and fresh food. Through the decades, Illegal Pete's has become one of the most iconic restaurants in Boulder.

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"The workers are awesome, they're always bumpin' the music" said Mason Mckay (12) This exciting new addition to the Table Mesa shopping center cannot come soon enough for Fairview students.



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