

For Immediate Release

NEW DILLONS PHARMACY IN JOPLIN, MO OPENS TODAY

Opening serves as a next step in rebuilding plans for Dillons

HUTCHINSON, KANSAS, December 28, 2011 – Through an ongoing commitment to the community, Dillon Stores today announced the opening of its new "more permanent," but temporary Dillons Pharmacy at 1001 South Rangeline Road in Joplin, MO. This week, the pharmacy is open with limited hours (8:00 AM through 6:00 PM today through Friday and 10:00 AM through 3:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday). Beginning next week, the new pharmacy will be available 8:00 AM through 8:00 PM Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM through 6:00 PM on Saturday, and 10:00 AM through 3:00 PM on Sunday. It is located in a former video store, approximately one mile from the site of the original Dillons grocery store. The new Dillons Pharmacy will replace the mobile pharmacy unit, which has provided its customers with convenient access to medications for the past six months.

When visiting the new Dillons Pharmacy, customers will be greeted by the familiar faces and trusted care of its team of pharmacists and technicians. Along with prescription drugs, customers will now have access to several over-the-counter medications and personal care items. This includes products such as vitamins, cold and flu medications, pain relief, first aid items, and nutritional aids. A drive-thru window is also available for added ease and convenience.

While complete construction details for a new Dillons store are not available at the current time, an internal team of senior leaders, engineers, and project managers are active in the rebuilding process. Collectively the group is exploring the possibility of a new site location, along with reviews of the existing site.

"We are excited to open our more permanent Dillons Pharmacy in Joplin," said Joe Grieshaber, Dillon Stores President. "Today is another step forward, as we continue our rebuilding efforts and keep our commitment to Joplin. Like other retailers and residents, we have found the rebuilding process has taken longer than we would have liked. Our focus continues to be on rebuilding the very best store for our customers in Joplin, and we are exploring every option to make it right. Dillons has served Joplin for the past 30 years and we are now taking new steps to be here for generations to come. All of us at Dillons are thankful for our customers' words of encouragement, as we continue through this process. We appreciate the fact that we have been missed, and look forward to reopening a new grocery store in Joplin."

In the wake of the tornado and beyond, Dillons has continued to offer support to the Joplin community. Immediately following the storm, Dillons provided a semi-truck load of water and food to assist with essential needs at the Joplin Red Cross Command Center. Dillons and Gerbes locations also served as collection points for local food drives with more than 55,000 pounds of food and \$16,000 received in Springfield and Columbia. Together with the generosity

of its customers and with a "dollar-for-dollar" match from Dillons, more than \$135,000 was donated to the Red Cross for tornado relief. An additional \$250,000 has also been presented to Ozark Food Harvest in support of continued relief efforts.

About Dillon Stores

Dillon Stores, headquartered in Hutchinson, KS, is a division of The Kroger Co., one of the nation's largest retail grocery chains. Dillon Stores operates 89 stores in Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska under the Dillons, Baker's, and Gerbes banners. The company employs over 11,000 associates and celebrates its 90th anniversary in serving Kansas in 2011. Dillon Stores focuses its charitable efforts on supporting hunger relief, health and wellness initiatives, local schools, and grassroots organizations in the communities it serves. For more information on Dillon Stores, please visit our websites at www.dillons.com, www.bakersplus.com, or www.gerbes.com

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