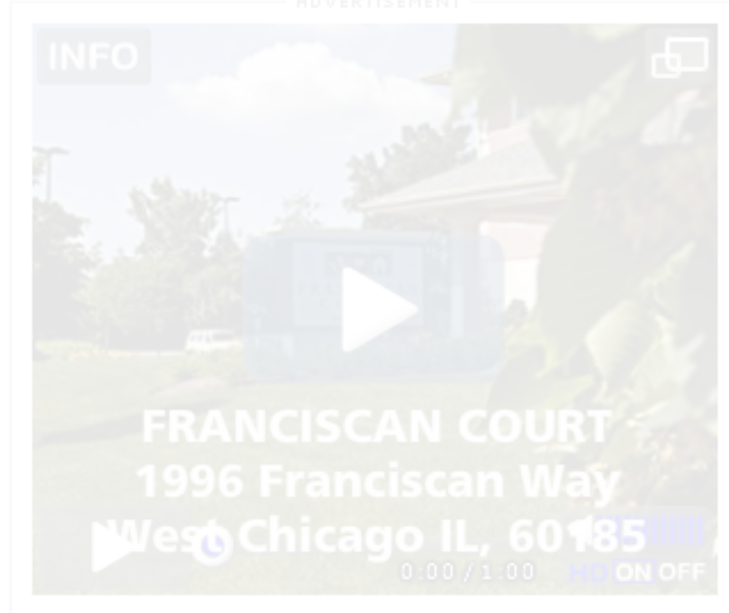



Brides walk the Brookfield boulevard for ideas

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Brookfield, IL -

Shops down Grand Boulevard in Brookfield will open their doors March 7 to brides perusing for their big day.

Abby Brennan, owner of Brennan Massage & Spa, and Claire Biebel, owner of Your Perfect Day, have planned a bridal expo, "Brides on the Boulevard," to showcase services offered to area brides.

"We wanted to give it a try as a way to get local brides familiar with what we have to offer in this business district," Brennan said.

The Grand Prairie Business Organization, which consists of store owners along Grand Boulevard, came together and decided participants could participate in the event for the day.

Patti Schmidt, owner of To Do or Dye Salon, said a table will be set up displaying photos of the stylists' work and consultations for packages. The salon uses all natural products for hair-care and make-up.

"We do tons of brides and packages," Schmidt said. "Usually we do up-dos, make-up, manicures and pedicures."

Linda Kampschroeder, owner of Salt Creek Wine Bar, said information stations including the Brookfield Public Library, Edward Jones and Chefs Ahoy will be set up in the restaurant.

"We will be open for business," Kampschroeder said. "People will want to stop and have a lunch or some snack."

Salt Creek Wine Bar hosts bridal showers, bachelorette parties and wedding parties, she added.

The bridal expo will give people a chance to meet with business owners and book places for their wedding events, Brennan said.

The spa will be raffling gift certificates toward a bridal rental package and giving discounts to those who schedule an appointment, Brennan said.

Brennan hopes "Brides on Boulevard" becomes an annual tradition, which can grow every year.

"Next year it might be nice to get other vendors," Brennan said. "Maybe a place to register that's not your typical Macy's. Those shops would have been a nice touch."