

Retro Fitness joins Lawrence SC in Lawrenceville, NJ **Metro Commercial leases 13,000 s/f health club**

MT. LAUREL, NJ — Metro Commercial, the region's largest full-service retail real estate firm, recently brokered a 12,992 s/f lease for Retro Fitness in the Lawrence Shopping Center in Lawrenceville.



Brent Barbehenn

Metro Commercial's Brent Barbehenn represented the landlord, Eastern State Properties, in the lease transaction. The health club, which will join the 250,000 s/f Burlington Coat Factory-anchored shopping center later this summer, is on a fast growth trajectory in the Northeast as it expects to open more than 450 locations during the next three years. There are currently 24 in operation and 62 under development.

Founded in 2004, Retro Fitness was created to provide an exciting and inviting environment fitting for all levels of fitness enthusiasts. The health clubs, which feature retro-style color schemes and classic pop-culture 80s music, are equipped with full service fitness centers including 50 plus pieces of equipment supplied by the leading manufacturer of equipment supply, Life Fitness. Retro's new Lawrenceville location is expected to do well in the established Lawrence Shopping Center, which is also anchored by Staples, Acme

and CVS. It is conveniently located on Rte. 1, just north of Trenton.

"The Lawrence Shopping Center provides great accessibility and traffic," said Barbehenn. "Retro Fitness should definitely benefit from the area's excellent demographics." Metro Commercial also executed the lease transaction for Retro's Glassboro, NJ, location. The health club entered the NJ market several years ago after the franchisor signed franchisee territories in the Washington, DC, area and several markets in PA. ■

