



### The Auld Dubliner opening at The Pike at Rainbow Harbor

David Copley (pictured above) and Eric Johnson are planning a mid-April opening, in time for the Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach, for their new traditional Irish pub, The Auld Dubliner. Built in an informal, pub-shop style (Irish pubs historically doubled as grocery stores and other shops), the entire bric-a-brac interior of the pub (including furniture, lights and the bar counter itself) came from Ireland and is being assembled by an Irish crew. The pub's façade also was brought over from Ireland. Guinness beer, of course, will be on tap ("correctly poured pints" will be served, Copley said). The Auld Dubliner has a full bar, which also features a variety of Irish whiskeys and a selection of mainly European import beers. Traditional Irish fare "with a modern twist" will be on the menu, Copley said, including dishes such as Irish stew, shepherd pie, fish and chips, and corned beef and cabbage. Copley said that he and Johnson are aiming to give patrons, in a family-oriented atmosphere, "the most authentic Irish experience you can have outside of Ireland." Copley and Johnson plan to have recorded and live Irish music at the pub. The partners will have about 25 employees, Copley said, including some bartenders from Ireland and head chef Matt Hewitt, formerly of Long Beach restaurants Christy's and Bono's. Copley, who came to the U.S. from Ireland in 1990 for a summer vacation and ended up staying permanently, and Johnson, a Long Beach native, were two of the three partners in another Irish pub, Limerick's, in the Naples neighborhood. Copley and Johnson sold their shares of that pub to the third Limerick's partner in December 2003. The Auld Dubliner will be open Sunday through Wednesday, 11 a.m.-12:30 a.m., and Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m.-1:30 a.m. The pub is located at 71 S. Pine Ave., at The Pike at Rainbow Harbor in Long Beach and can be reached at 562/437-8300. The pub also has a Web site ([www.aulddubliner.com](http://www.aulddubliner.com)). (Photograph by the Business Journal's Adam Faure)