# Six Mile downtown: 3 blocks and growing

## Despite — because of — recession, new businesses keep moving in

■ Tiny town sits in area of expected growth. Page 5A

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Despite a stressed economy, downtown Six Mile has welcomed new businesses — from barbecue to groceries — over the past year, and some have grand plans for the area's future.

"I think it's going to be good," Bill Edmondson, owner of Spanky's Backyard BBQ on Main Street, which has been downtown for about a year, said of the area's future. "Once the economy turns and we get the building and stuff going in the Reserve, once it starts up again, I think the area will really grow."

Edmondson said there are buildings across the street from his barbecue restaurant that are for rent and said he thinks the area needs a doctor's office, and maybe a dentist.

He said that having a viable downtown is important.

"You need something to draw people to the town," Edmondson said. "In order to draw, you have to have some starting point, and that would be businesses."

Six Mile Mayor John Wade said the downtown is the length of about three city blocks along Main Street, an area that has added four or five businesses within the last year.

"It seems to be quite lively," Wade said.

He said Spanky's Backyard BBQ, a thrift store, Rippy Realty, a tanning and hair salon, and a small grocery store have all come onto the scene in downtown Six Mile in about the last year.

A Dollar General came in a couple years ago as well, which Wade said was a big addition.

