

# Meijer Unveils Its First Supercenters in Suburban Cleveland

**Retailer brings mix of family heritage and innovation to new stores in Avon, Mentor and Stow**

**CLEVELAND, Ohio** – Meijer opened three supercenters in Northeast Ohio on Tuesday, bringing Avon, Mentor and Stow a state-of-the-art retail experience that combines fresh groceries, general merchandise and low prices with a customer-focus that puts neighbors and community first.

“We’re proud to open our doors on this first historic day in Northeast Ohio,” said Executive Chairman Hank Meijer. “These new stores reinforce our ongoing commitment to serving the needs of families in the Buckeye State. We look forward to providing our neighbors in Avon, Mentor and Stow the convenience and value that shoppers throughout Ohio have enjoyed for the last 40 years.”

The 155,000 square-foot stores are open 24 hours a day, 364 days a year and are among five new Meijer supercenters opening in the Midwest this year. Opening celebrations began with a ribbon-cutting event at each of the three stores, followed by remarks from Meijer leadership and local officials. The stores demonstrated their commitment to the community by each making donations to two local organizations.

- Avon Store Director Randy McCarty presented a \$20,000 donation to Community Resource Services and \$10,000 to Avon High School.
- Mentor Store Director Brandon Ford presented \$25,000 donation to Mentor High School and \$5,000 to Torchlight Youth Mentoring Alliance.
- Stow Store Director Dessie Szklany presented a \$25,000 donation to the Stow City Schools and \$5,000 to Bulldog Bags.

As part of its ongoing community support, Meijer donates more than six percent of its net profit to charitable organizations annually, and each of its stores work with local foodbanks and pantries to help fight hunger. Since 2008, the retailer’s *Simply Give* program has generated nearly \$48 million for its food pantry partners throughout the Midwest.

## **What Customers Can Expect**

Meijer brings a specialty store approach to its one-stop shopping experience with more than 600 varieties of farm-fresh produce including 150 USD-certified organic items, as well as a fresh bakery, fresh seafood, and a full-service meat department featuring Certified Angus Beef. The Mentor and Stow stores will also feature Lakewood-based *Addicted* coffee while Avon offers a Starbucks, as well as grab-and-go convenience items, with hand-tossed pizza and fresh sushi made daily.

The stores also offer everything from women’s apparel – with on-trend styles in every size, on the same rack, at the same price – to beauty care, an expansive baby department and a pet department that offers 200 pet toys, 500 varieties of treats for dogs and cats and premium foods.

The store’s new pharmacy features drive-thru pick up and the company’s free prescription program, which helps customers save money by offering select prescriptions for free.

“As a native Ohioan, I’m thrilled to see our expansion into the Cleveland area, providing more customers the opportunity to shop our great stores,” said Rick Keyes, Meijer President & CEO. “Our teams in Avon, Mentor and Stow have worked very hard to get ready for this day and I’m very confident that our new customers in Northeast Ohio will enjoy these new stores.”

To continue the grand opening celebrations, the new Meijer locations will feature a variety of events beginning Sunday, May 19. The first 200 customers to enter the stores after 7 a.m. on Sunday will receive a Meijer mystery gift card with a value of \$5, \$10 or \$20.

**About Meijer:** Meijer is a Grand Rapids, Mich.-based retailer that operates 245 supercenters throughout Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky and Wisconsin. A privately-owned and family-operated company since 1934, Meijer pioneered the “one-stop shopping” concept and has evolved through the years to include expanded fresh produce and meat departments, as well as pharmacies, comprehensive apparel departments, pet departments, garden centers, toys and electronics. For additional information on Meijer, please visit [www.meijer.com](http://www.meijer.com). Follow Meijer on Twitter [@twitter.com/Meijer](https://twitter.com/Meijer) and [@twitter.com/MeijerPR](https://twitter.com/MeijerPR) or become a fan at [www.facebook.com/meijer](https://www.facebook.com/meijer).

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