

Front Lines

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Plantpeddler's Retail Complex

Ellen C. Wells

Plantpeddler, a longtime wholesale grower in Cresco, lowa, broke ground for its new Plantpeddler Retail Complex on March 31. I'd always known them to be mainly a growing operation, but this new complex is allowing for the company's expansion of its retail business—including floral, gift and garden center product lines—which they've had since they were founded in 1980.



The retail operation will be in a 6,000-sq. ft. widespan steel building with vaulted ceiling, multilevel shopping, a

central cooler and floral design space. All this is connected to 9,000 sq. ft. of gutter-connected greenhouses with a glass south gable end. All the fixtures will be movable. This will allow them to use the space in various ways, such as for corporate events.

If all goes as planned, Plantpeddler and the Gooder family will be celebrating their 45th anniversary and Christmas Open House November 22-23 during the new complex's Grand Opening. **GP**