

HOUSTON



Johnny Carrabba



Here's Johnny!

by Robin Barr Sussman | [Houston \(houston\)_magazine](#) | May 15, 2012

Iconic local restaurateur Johnny Carrabba is building a trio of eateries near his original Carrabba's in Upper Kirby. The first of the newly constructed restaurants to debut is **Mia's** (3131 Argonne St., 713.522.6427), scheduled to open in May. Named after his daughter, it's an all-American, fast-casual concept—not Italian—and touts a menu of assorted burgers; smoked St. Louis-style ribs or smoked chicken with coleslaw, potato salad or baked

beans; "fried country baskets" of shrimp or chicken with Texas toast and jalapeño cream gravy, along with a few surprises like Chilean sea bass tacos. For dessert: malts and shakes and Grandma's cupcakes! Expect a spacious, wood-wrapped Texas Hill Country look and a welcoming oak-shaded patio nicely tucked away from bustling Kirby Drive.

A new, larger **Carrabba's** location opens this fall and the adjacent **Grace's on Kirby**, another Italian spot with a full-service menu, by the end of the year.