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Bojangles to remodel, construct new restaurants

Company to increase number of stores
from 400 to almost 450 by year's end

By Angelia Davis
BUSINESS WRITER
adavis@greenvillenews.com

The Bojangles Famous Chicken 'N Biscuits restaurant chain says it plans to renovate existing stores in the Upstate and build new ones.

Bojangles restaurants off Asheville Highway in Spartanburg and State 290 in Duncan have been remodeled in recent months, while renovations are underway at the Faris Road restaurant in Greenville.

A new restaurant will open in Clemson in October, in Roebuck in November and in Inman in December. Randy Kibler, president and chief executive officer of Bojangles, said three more restaurants are planned for the general area in 2009.

Charlotte-based Bojangles has been in the Upstate for about 20 years, with a total of 11 restaurants currently in Greenville, Pickens, Anderson, and Spartanburg counties.

Bojangles was founded in 1977. The chain celebrated its 400th store this year, with locations now in 12 states as well as Honduras and Mexico. Of the total, 254 are franchised, while 146 are corporate-owned, according to information on the company's Web site.

By the end of this year, the company said it expects to have almost 450 restaurants open.

In late 2007, Charlotte-based Falfurrias Capital Partners, a private equity firm specializing in investments in middle-market companies, acquired a controlling interest in Bojangles' Holdings Inc.

The investment group includes Hugh L. McColl Jr., founder and chairman of Falfurrias Capital Partners and former chairman and chief executive of Bank of America, and Jerry Richardson, founder and president of the NFL Carolina Panthers and former chairman and chief executive of Flagstar Cos. Inc.