

South Beloit hotel plans opening

By Shaun Zinck szinck@beloitdailynews.com | Posted: Monday, January 12, 2015 4:00 pm

The Garden Hotel in South Beloit plans to open its Greenhouse Bar and Grill for business today.

Chad Bryden, general manager for the hotel, said business leaders will visit the hotel for a private grand opening on Wednesday. Tours will be conducted at that time to show off the renovations done to the building over the last few months.

About 200 people are expected to visit the hotel at 200 Dearborn Ave., on Wednesday, Bryden said.

“We’re giving them a tour to show them what we’ve done in the last six months, and giving them a road map for the next six months,” he said.

Bryden said the owner recently approved plans to renovate about 75 rooms by the pool. The rooms will be re-carpeted and fitted with new furniture and televisions, Bryden said.

“We will look to have that done by the spring,” he said.

The banquet and ballroom also will get new carpet, paint and lighting as well, Bryden said, adding those renovations should be done by the end of this month.

Bryden said the developers have spent about \$2 million in upgrading the building, which doesn’t include some of the renovations to come.

In November the hotel opened about 52 rooms for reservations. The hotel still has about 50 rooms available, but hopes to open the rest of the rooms in the spring. Bryden said events are already being booked for next year, and estimated the hotel will host about two events per month in 2016.

Once fully open, the hotel will feature 164 rooms, including two larger extended stay rooms, and 11,000 square feet of meeting and banquet space. Bryden said the meeting space is being upgraded with the latest presentation and sound equipment.

“Many hotels rent that equipment, but we bought it just to add that extra feature,” he said.



Hotel bar set to open

The bar area for the Garden Hotel's restaurant Greenhouse Bar and Grill is set to open on Monday in South Beloit. Renovations continue on the rooms around the pool and the banquet room.

Bryden also added the hotel is building a children's play area near the pool, and is looking purchase play equipment.

"We also plan to double the interior landscaping throughout the hotel," he said.

A lot of work has gone into the hotel since Ariva Hospitality purchased the property in June 2013, Bryden said. The hotel sat vacant for three years prior to being purchased, and the property was slipping into the first stages of deterioration.

Bryden said work will continue, and the owners plan to stay in the community for years to come.

"Excellence is always under construction," Bryden said.